







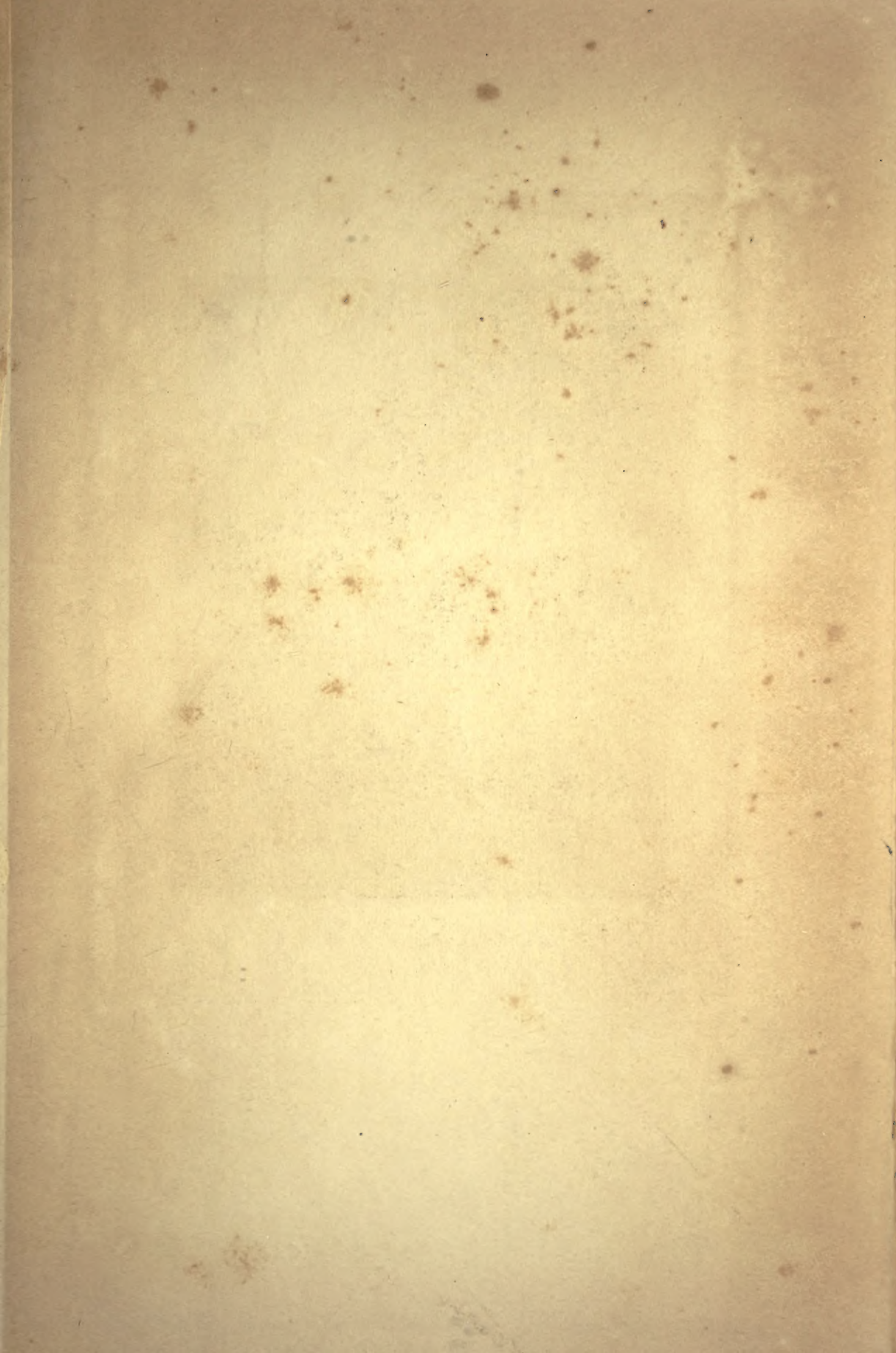


Mr. Foster



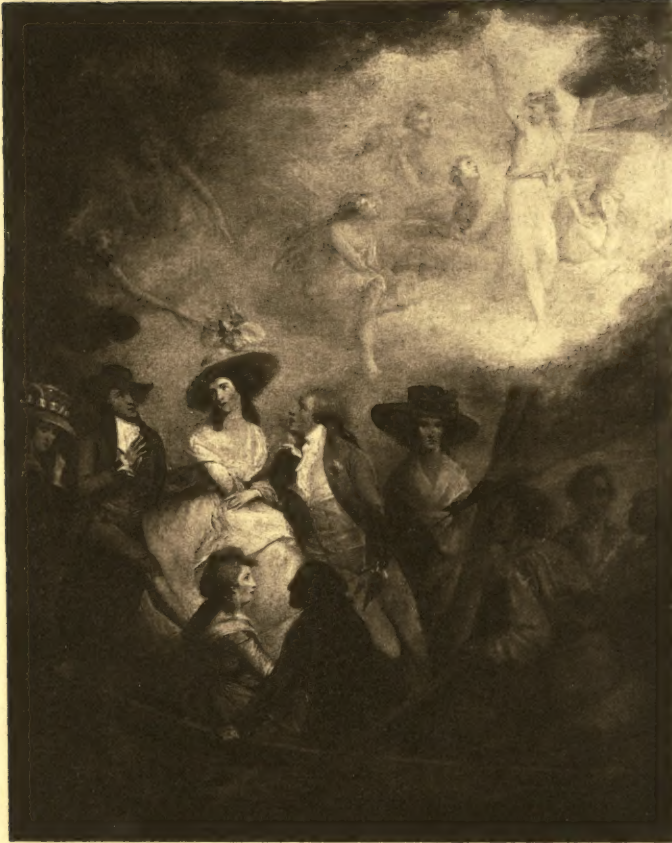








CAINSBOROUGH



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MRS SHERIDAN		
	LORD RADNOR	



# THE ANCESTOR

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Family History, Heraldry  
and Antiquities

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THE pages of the ANCESTOR will be open to correspondence dealing with matters within the scope of the review.

Questions will be answered, and advice will be given, as far as may be possible, upon all points relating to the subjects with which the ANCESTOR is concerned.

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THE EDITOR OF THE ANCESTOR  
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WILLIAM SHERIDAN, BISHOP OF KILMORE.

1635—1711.

*From an old print.*



DR. SHERIDAN.

1687—1738.

*From an old print.*



## SOME ACCOUNT OF THE SHERIDAN FAMILY

THE immortal Bob Acres in the *Rivals* is made to say, 'Think what it would be to disgrace my ancestors'; to which his servant rejoins, 'Under favour, the surest way of not disgracing them is to keep as long as you can out of their company.' Our ancestors are very good kind of folks, but they are the last people I should choose to have a visiting acquaintance with,' and in reviewing my ancestors I cannot but heartily endorse the sentiments expressed.

The first Sheridan, of whom there is no authentic record save a document preserved in the College of Arms at Dublin, was named Oscar O'Seridan of Castle Toger, co. Cavan. His date is given as 1014, and he married a daughter of the O'Rourke, Prince of Leitrim; from them were descended a high sounding roll of Princes of Leitrim, of Sligo, and of Cavan, a glorious roll of names unhampered by dates or evidences, in which the arrival of one Jane Atkinson as a bride of the late fourteenth century period, offends by its commonplace probability. After Jane the pedigree halts rather lamely, as though the course of the hitherto pure and undefiled stream of ancestry could not resume its flow of unbroken nonsense after meeting such a rock of middle-class nomenclature. But when facts are encountered, our pedigree may at least be said to begin happily enough with a celebrity. William Sheridan (1635-1711) was the first male about whom anything is known, and he attained a celebrity which no successor has ever attempted to emulate, for he became Bishop of Kilmore, and from an old print (reproduced) seems to have had the cast of countenance described by a descendant as a 'damned disinheriting one.' A Sheridan bishop is not a personage one can contemplate with any gravity, and so we pass on to his son Thomas Sheridan, an Irishman of the most pronounced type. He was born in 1687, matriculating at Trinity College, Dublin, in 1707, and married when very young Elizabeth Macfadden, who brought him as her dower the lands of Quilca Dumbrat and Carrickacrow, pro-

perty which had belonged to the Sheridans, who through their allegiance to James II. had forfeited it in favour of Charles Macfadden, a supporter of William of Orange.

The happy accident of marriage restored the property to its original possessors. Dr. Thomas Sheridan, soon after his marriage, became the intimate friend of the terrible Dean Swift, who procured for him a schoolmastership in Dublin yielding him £1,000 a year, and endeavoured to get him to accept one of £1,400 outside Dublin. Dr. Thomas however with fatal judgment, acting on the advice of other people, remained in Dublin—there is a letter of his extant to Swift which tells the story. ‘As for my quondam friends, as you style them, quondam them all, for they lulled me to sleep till they stole my school into the hands of a blockhead, and have driven me towards the latter end of my life to a disagreeable solitude.’

Swift however, with a good nature not very characteristic, did not despair, and through his influence the Lord Lieutenant Carteret, afterwards Lord Granville, appointed Dr. Sheridan one of his private chaplains, and gave him a living in the county of Cork. His first sermon there was also his last, for not being, when Sunday arrived, prepared with a discourse, he seized the first that came to hand. Now it so chanced that the date was 1 August, and the anniversary of Queen Anne’s death, and among the Whigs a day of great rejoicing. The text he had elected was: ‘Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.’ This, as may be imagined, was speedily turned to his disadvantage, though the sermon itself was absolutely free from Jacobitism. Dr. Thomas was dispossessed of his living, his name was struck off the list of chaplains, and he was forbidden to appear at the Vice-Regal Court.

Friends however seemed to surround this eccentric divine, who must have had something very lovable in his nature, for his predecessor in the living he had quitted under such peculiar circumstances presented him with a house and estate with a rental of £800 a year. On the strength of this, Dr. Thomas lived up to twice the amount. Thomas the eldest boy was sent to Westminster School, and concerts and dinner parties were of frequent occurrence. Soon however his school began to fail from competition, and in a short time he was again in difficulties. Swift once more came to the rescue,





THOMAS SHERIDAN, A.M.





and for some time Dr. Sheridan lived as an inmate of the deanery. A quarrel soon came. Swift asked Dr. Sheridan to note and tell him if he (Dr. Swift) was growing stingy with old age. With the brutal frankness of a thoroughly unsophisticated nature, Dr. Sheridan 'all his faults observed, set in a note-book, learned and conned by rote to cast into his teeth.'

Swift resented it quite as much as Cassius, and in a far more practical form, for he turned Dr. Sheridan out of the house, and so ended a friendship which had produced kindness and benevolence from one, and humour and native wit of a high quality from the other. It is noteworthy that each wrote a life of the other, and that each regretted bitterly the trivial cause that had separated two lifelong friends.

Dr. Sheridan died in October 1738, and Thomas Sheridan his son reigned in his stead. Born in 1719, he was but nineteen years old at his father's death. His education at Westminster and subsequent induction into Trinity College, Dublin, had fitted him for nothing but an easy life, a state his temperament and means were against his ever achieving. Left almost penniless at his father's death, he resolved to adopt the stage as a path to fortune, and for a time Dublin received him as her Garrick. There was in my possession a play-bill of *Othello*, in which the heavily leaded characters are MR. SHERIDAN (Iago) and MR. GARRICK (Othello), with an announcement that the parts on future nights would be alternated, Mr. Sheridan playing the Moor and Garrick Iago. So well were his efforts crowned that he became manager and part owner of the Dublin theatre. An unfortunate quarrel with one of his company resulted in the theatre being wrecked and Mr. Sheridan beggared.

Mr. Sheridan, I fear, suffered all through life from being somewhat pompous and not a little of a prig. Moreover he was dull, and as such, however wronged a person may be, it is very difficult to raise any great degree of sympathy for their troubles. He had to leave Ireland, to let the wreckage of his theatre, and turn his hand, a somewhat heavy one, to elocution and the study of oratory. Here he fell foul of Dr. Johnson, who descended upon his efforts with elephantine wit. 'I ask a plain question. What do you mean to teach? What influence can Mr. Sheridan have on the language of this great country by his narrow exertions. Sir, it is burning a candle at Dover to show light at Calais.'

In 1747 Mr. Sheridan married Miss Frances Chamberlaine, a lady whose novel, *The Memoirs of Sidney Biddulph*, is said to have taken the town by storm. Charles Fox pronounced it the best novel of the age, and Dr. Johnson complained that the plot was too harrowing. *Sidney Biddulph* was translated into French and dramatized for the stage. Fired with success, she attempted a play, and Garrick enacted the leading part in *The Discovery*, as it was called. This too was received with rapture, and her fame as novelist and playwright was secure.

The children of this not undistinguished pair were : first, Charles Francis, Richard Brinsley and Elizabeth and Alicia. Of these four the eldest was undistinguished. Alicia became the wife of Joseph Lefanu and wrote novels that attained a certain celebrity, but no enduring fame, *Strathallan*, I imagine, being the best known or perhaps the least forgotten of them.

Of the second son so much has been written and so little in comparison is really known, that I hesitate to add to the number of his commentators. All the civilized world knows *The School for Scandal* ; the man is but a dullard who is incapable of appreciating the wit of the *Critic* or the sparkling satire of the *Rivals*.

His speeches, alas, are gone for ever. Reporting was very different in those days to what it is now ; and singularly imperfect as the reports are, there are yet passages which quicken the pulse and burn their way into the brain : his speech on the mutiny at the Nore ; the wonderful oration against Warren Hastings, the success of which was so great that the House had to be adjourned for the effect to wear off.

He married twice ; by his first wife, the beautiful and accomplished Miss Linley, he had one son, like his grandfather and great-grandfather christened Thomas ; by his second wife, Miss Ogle, daughter of the Dean of Winchester, a daughter who died in infancy.

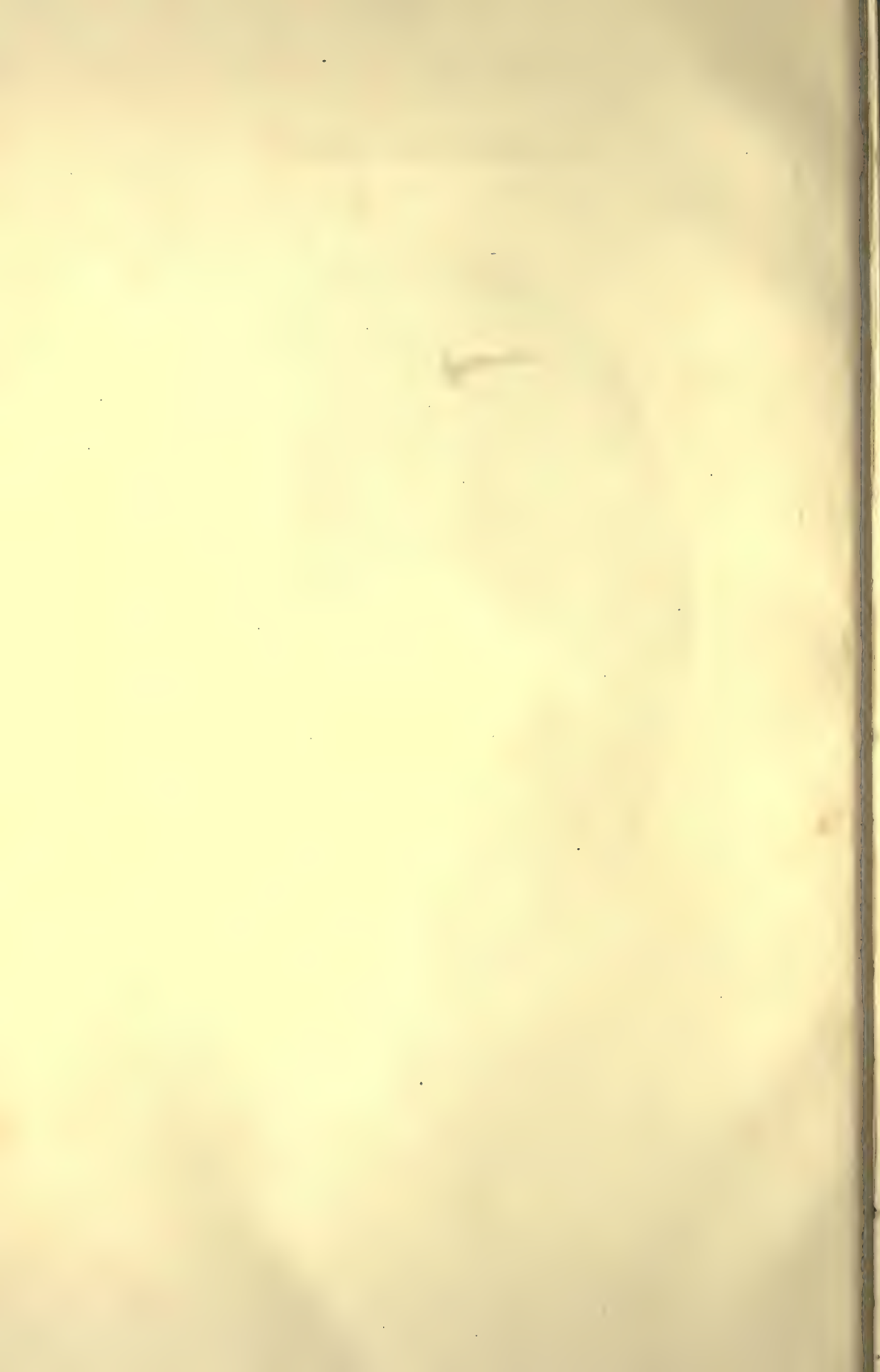
Tom, as he was generally called, inherited the beauty of his mother and the wit of his father ; he married Henrietta Callander, and by her had three daughters and three sons, all distinguished alike for cleverness and extreme good looks.

Of the daughters, Helen married Lord Dufferin, and became the mother of the celebrated diplomatist and ambassador. Caroline, married George Chappel Norton,





MRS. SHERIDAN.  
(MISS FRANCES CHAMBERLAIN.)  
*A pastel—artist unknown.*





Recorder of Guildford, and had three children, the second son of whom, Thomas Brinsley, became Lord Grantley, succeeding his uncle who was the great-grandson of the famous Sir Fletcher Norton, Lord Grantley. At his death she married Sir William Stirling Maxwell of Keir, by whom was no issue.

Jane Georgina, Tom's third daughter, married the twelfth Duke of Somerset. The 'queen of love and beauty' of the Eglinton tournament, the newspapers of next year will often recall her memory should the promised revival of that famous folly ever take shape. Amongst her grandchildren are the present Countess of Verulam, the present Duchess of Montrose, the late Lady Houghton, and Mrs. George Faber, also Sir Richard Graham of Netherby, who married in the first place his first cousin Miss Baring, and secondly another first cousin, Lady Cynthia Duncombe. These were the children respectively of Mrs. Charles Baring and of the Countess of Feversham, who were the beautiful daughters of Fanny Callander and Sir James Graham.

The three sons of Tom Sheridan and Henrietta Callander were Brinsley, Frank and Charles. Brinsley married Miss Grant, daughter of Sir Colquhoun Grant and heiress of Frampton Court, Dorset. The marriage was celebrated under romantic circumstances, the young couple eloping to Gretna Green, their marriage being the last that took place there.

Their third son, Algernon Brinsley, succeeded his father and added to the lustre of the family by marrying Miss Mary Motley, daughter of the gifted author of the *Rise of the Dutch Republic*, who was for many years American Minister at the courts of St. James and Vienna.

The only living daughter of Brinsley Sheridan and Miss Grant is Florence, who married Lord Poltimore, whose eldest son, Coplestone Bampfylde, married Margaret Beaumont, the great-granddaughter of the celebrated George Canning.

WILFRED SHERIDAN.

## FAMILY HISTORY FROM PRIVATE MANUSCRIPTS

THE following selections are made from the MSS. of Lord Carlisle, preserved at Castle Howard (6th Appendix to 15th Report on Historical MSS.). The descriptions of some famous mansions of the eighteenth century are of interest. Footnotes are added where required.

J. H. R.

LADY E. LECHMERE TO [LORD CARLISLE]

1721, 19 Aug.—My Lord Warwick is gone off very young; I hear he made no will, and there is but 300 a year goes with the title, which will make a very poor Earl.<sup>1</sup>

[LADY] MARY HOWARD OF WORKSOP TO [LORD CARLISLE]

1722, 23 May [London].—The many obligations I have formerly received from your Lordship gives (*sic*) me the hopes of your favour in this, which is in behalf of a relation of your Lordship's as well as mine, Mr. Barnard Howard[s] son,<sup>2</sup> who came here with his family some months ago. He is a stranger in these parts, and came here only for his conveniency for some time; so is only a lodger. The noise of a plot has obliged the Lord Mayor to summon all gentlemen to the Hall to take the oaths, or find bail. The first your Lordship knows is never done amongst us; the latter is what he cannot pretend to get by his small acquaintance here. The favour that is desired from your Lordship is one line to my Lord Mayor, [which] would make him not require that of him which he does to [of] those that are housekeepers here. He is to appear on Saturday next by nine of the clock in the morning; and if it were not improper for your Lordship to send one to the Court, it would give a countenance to the distressed relation, whose wife is more likely to die than live. I am sure, whatever you will think fit to do in this affair, my son Norfolk will have the same regard as if it was done to himself. Give me leave to beg one line in answer to this.

<sup>1</sup> He died aged twenty-three. The title went to his kinsman, and the Kensington estate (recently in the market) to his aunt, Lord Kensington's ancestress (see *Complete Peerage*).

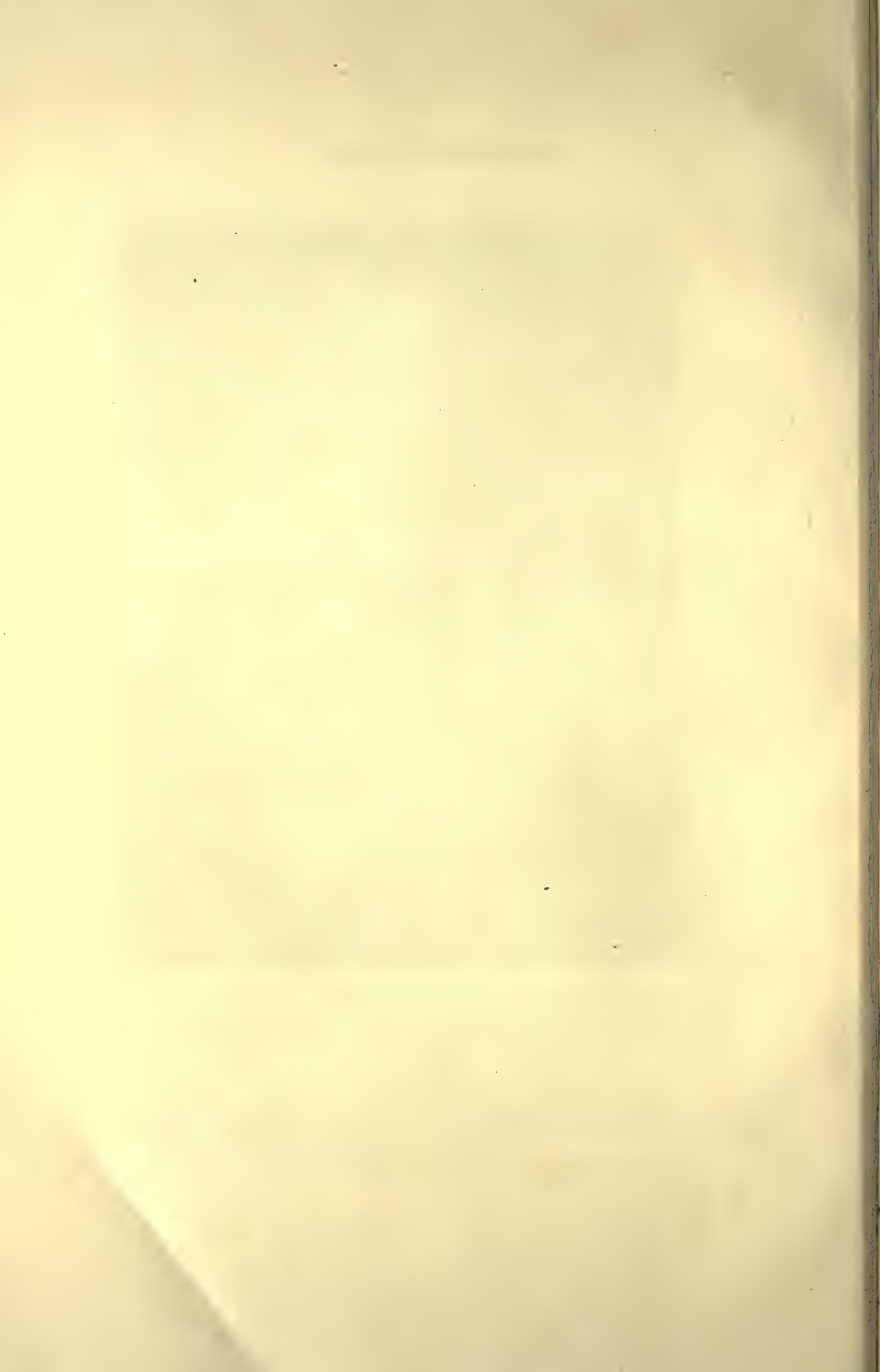
<sup>2</sup> Son of her husband's uncle, and ancestor of the present duke.





RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN AS A YOUNG MAN, IN FANCY DRESS.

*Artist unknown.*





## FAMILY HISTORY

7

### SIR J. VANBRUGH TO LORD CARLISLE

1722, 19 June, London.—I have only time to-night to acquaint your Lordship with a few particulars I have learnt of what my Lord Marlborough has left, which is more than the most extravagant believers ever named.

He has left his widow (I wish some ensign had her) 10,000*l.* a year, to spoil Blenheim her own way ; 12,000*l.* a year more to keep herself clean, and plague folks at law with ; 2,000*l.* a year to Lord Sund[erland] for ever, and as much to the Duchess of Montague for life ; 8,000*l.* a year to Lord Ryallton for present maintenance ; and the gross of his wealth (for these are but snippings) to Lady Godolphin and her successors, according to the grand settlement. I forgot one article (a sad one) : he has only given Lord Godolphin a jointure of 3,000*l.* a year if he outlives my Lady. This I fancy was her Grace's doings for not voting for her [on her appeal to the House of Lords in her action against Sir J. V.]

### LADY E. LECHMERE TO HER SISTER THE VISCOUNTESS OF IRWIN

1731, 11 July, n.s., Paris.—The Duke of Wharton has at last finished a despicable, extravagant life. His estate and character died before him, and his name will not long survive him. I believe no person in the time ever made so effectual a dispatch of both, and it will be difficult for any genius that comes after him to imitate him through all the circles of his short course of life. . . .

### SIR THOMAS ROBINSON TO [LORD CARLISLE]

1731, 9 Dec., Albemarle Street.—My house in Yorks[hire]<sup>1</sup> is now entirely fitted up to be warm and convenient for my family, and, with the wings, makes a regular front of 146 feet to the Park, and to the north are three courts for offices. My chief expense has been in Palladian doors and windows, which I am told have a very good effect, and in building a stable for fifteen horses as a wing to the house, which makes the regularity, and occasions so large a front, as I have mentioned above. There is now nothing wanting for our reception but to put up the furniture, which is ready there for that end, and I can assure your Lordship in none of my future schemes I propose to myself so much pleasure as in retiring to Rookby Park. How soon that may be, we have not yet determined, but sooner or later in life 'tis what we shall certainly do.

I was a fortnight in my tour into the eastern parts of England, and was, during that time, a week at Houghton.<sup>2</sup> We were generally between twenty and thirty at two tables, and as much cheerfulness and

<sup>1</sup> Rokeby Park.

<sup>2</sup> Now belonging to Sir Robert's descendant, Lord Cholmondeley.

good nature as I ever saw where the company was so numerous. Young Lady Walpole and Mrs. Hamond (Sir R[obert Walpole's] sister) were the only two ladies. Sir Robert does the honours of his house extremely well, and so as to make it perfectly agreeable to everyone who lives with him. They hunted six days in the week, three times with Lord Walpole's fox-hounds, and thrice with Sir R[obert's] harriers and indeed 'tis a very fine open country for sport.

During the Duke of Lorrain's being there the consumption both from the larder and the cellar was prodigious. They dined in the hall, which was lighted by 130 wax candles, and the saloon with 50; the whole expense in that article being computed at fifteen pounds a night.

The house is less than Mr. Duncomb's, but as they make use of the ground storey, and have cellars under that, I believe it is the best house in the world for its size, capable of the greatest reception for company, and the most convenient state apartments, very noble, especially the hall and saloon. The finishing of the inside is, I think, a pattern for all great houses that may hereafter be built: the vast quantity of mahogoni, all the doors, window-shutters, best staircase, etc., being entirely of that wood; the finest chimnies of statuary and other fine marbles; the ceilings in the modern taste by Italians, painted by Mr. Kent, and finely gilt; the furniture of the richest tapestry, etc.; the pictures hung on Genoa velvet and damask; this one article is the price of a good house, for in one drawing-room there are to the value of three thousand pounds; in short, the whole expense of this place must be a prodigious sum, and, I think, all done in a fine taste. There is only one dining room to be finished, which is to be lined with marble, and will be a noble work. The offices are also built of Mr. Cholmley's stone, and are well disposed and suitable to the house. In one wing are the kitchens and all necessary rooms belonging to a table, servants' halls, etc., and over head are several very good lodging rooms; in the other are the brew-house and wash-house, etc., and a very magnificent hall for a chapel, and a large room which looks on the parterre, designed for a gallery, there being the same in the opposite wing for a green-house.

The enclosure of the Park contains seven hundred acres, very finely planted, and the ground laid out to the greatest advantage. The gardens are about forty acres, which are only fenced from the Park by a *fossé*, and I think very prettily disposed. Sir Robert and Bridgeman showed me the large design for the plantations in the country, which is the present undertaking; they are to be plumps and avenues to go quite round the Park pale, and to make straight and oblique lines of a mile or two in length, as the situation of the country admits of. This design will be about twelve miles in circumference, and nature has disposed of the country so as these plantations will have a very noble and fine effect; and at every angle there are to be obelisks, or some other building. In





MRS. SHERIDAN (MISS LINLEY) AND HER BROTHER.

*From a pastel by Gainsborough.*





short, the outworks at Houghton will be 200 years hence what those at Castle Howard are now, for he has very little full-grown timber, and not a drop of water for ornament; but take altogether it is a seat so perfectly magnificent and agreeable, that I think nothing but envy itself can find fault because there is no more of the one, and I scarce missed the entire want of the other.

The stables (which are very large and [have] been finished about thirteen years ago) are to be pulled down next summer, not only as they are very ill built, but stand in the way of one of the most agreeable prospects you have from the house, and 'tis not yet quite determined whether they should be rebuilt as wings to the Park front of the house, and as part of the whole design, or only a separate building, only for use and not to appear. I own I argued strenuously for the former, but Sir Robert seems almost fixed upon having a plain structure, and to be placed out of the way and not to be seen in your approach to the house. The other wings are thrown quite backwards into the garden, and make very little ornament to this front of the house, which, being without either a portico, three-quarter columns and a pediment, or any other break, appears to me to be too naked and exposed, and rather as an end front to a very large palace, than the principal one of a modern house; and wings to be built here would greatly obviate all objections of this nature.

I had forgot his fine La[o]coon in brass, done by the famous Gerrardon (who made my equestrian figure of Lewis 14th), which cost 1,000 guin[ee]s at Paris; a fine gilt gladiator, given him by Lord Pembroke, and which is very prettily placed on four Doric columns with their proper entablature, which stand in the void of the great staircase: and the figure stands upon a level with the floor of the great apartment, and fronts the door which goes into the hall, and has a very fine effect, when you go out of that room. Upon the s[tair]case he has several other fine bronzes, and twelve noble busts in the hall. His statues for two niches are not yet bought; the La[o]coon stands before that which is opposite to the chimney.

I have said so much on Houghton, that 'twould be swelling my letter to too great a size, to give my observations in this of the other seats I saw in my tour, but will send them to your Lordship the next post.

SIR THOMAS ROBINSON TO [LORD CARLISLE]

1731, 12 Dec., Albemarle Street.—I promised your Lordship in my last letter to continue my remarks on the tour I lately made into Norfolk, etc. I am the more emboldened in doing it, as this is a part of England you have not seen a great many years, and all the great improvements have not been of very long standing.

'Tis five miles from Sir Robert's to Lord Townshend's.<sup>1</sup> The

<sup>1</sup> Raynham Hall.

beauty of this place consists of three very noble woods. In that nearest the house are some of as large oaks as I ever saw in my life; and at a proper distance from it is a piece of water of 26 acres, which makes a sort of half-circle, and has a very noble effect. [The] greatest part of the house was built by our Master Inigo Jones. It has lately been sashed, and prettily ornamented on the inside by Mr. Kent; and the four fronts lays [lie] open to the Park, there being only a little corridor which runs to a new building of kitchen offices, etc. The situation is fine, and indeed it is a very noble seat.

Ten miles from Sir Robert's is Lord Lovell's,<sup>1</sup> who is beginning his improvements, but has no other temptation than that his ancestors lived there, and have left a large estate round an exceeding bad old house, for his water is to [be] brought, his plantations but just begun, and a house to be built, and not fifty pounds' worth of wood within two miles of the place, so that 'tis pretty much the same as if any monied person bought a 1,000 acres (which is the whole design) of any common kind of ground of a tolerable situation, and begun a seat there. His successors might reap an advantage, but life is too short for the first generation to receive much benefit where there are so many disadvantages from nature, and the whole to be compassed only by art, time, and expense.

I was two days at the Duke of Grafton's, at Euston. The house was built by his mother's father,<sup>2</sup> and, though of so short a standing, is ready to fall, being so very slightly finished, and all the materials so very bad. The garden of about 80 acres is fenced on one side from the park by a brick wall in a *fossé*, as at Sir Robert's, and the slope from the terras in the garden so wide, that the wall is plante[d] with fruit trees, and so disposed that they have a sufficient quantity of sun to ripen their respective fruits. On the other side the fence, between the garden and the park, is a very pretty rivulet cut in a winding and irregular manner, with now and then a little lake, etc., and over it in one approach to the house is a wooden bridge built by Lord Burlington, with an arch that appears almost flat, and from hence you have a beautiful prospect of the water, which is indeed delightfully disposed. The park is about 9 miles about. The Duke has hitherto done very little to it, but is now entering into a taste, but nature has done so much for him, and his woods and lawns are disposed in so agreeable a manner, that a little art and expense will make it a most charming place. He has a wood out of the park something like Pretty-wood at Castle H[owar]d, which might be made a noble thing.

In my way home, I spent a day with Lord Bristol at Ickworth, which is by much the finest park I ever yet saw, being about 1,200

<sup>1</sup> Holkham. Thomas Coke was created Lord Lovel in 1728 and Earl of Leicester 1744.

<sup>2</sup> Henry (Bennet) Earl of Arlington (d. 1685).





WILLIAM LINLEY.  
FATHER OF MRS. SHERIDAN.





acres, and above 25,000*l.* of exceeding fine oaks, etc. Within the pale, the disposition of the woods, lawns [and] valleys (where for a small expense he might have any quantity of water), and the rising hills covered with large old timber, are all truly magnificent and agreeable. They live in a tenant's old house in the park, so very bad a habitation, that I am astonished how so large a family have so long made a shift in it. The old mansion-house was pulled down about twenty years ago, and those materials and others sufficient to build a new house were led to another situation, and the new one determined to be built ; but an ill run at play (as fame reports) stopped the design, and most of the wood, brick, and stone have since been used in tenants' houses. His Lordship has been at very little expense, but nature has been so much his friend that little assistance is wanting from art.

I was at Lord Suffolk's at Audly End,<sup>1</sup> which stands upon a vast deal of ground, but I think has not one comfortable room in it. The park is very prettily improved, and a very genteel spot of ground, though of no great extent.

From thence I closed my tour by spending a day at Lord Tilney's,<sup>2</sup> who expressed great concern he could not wait on your Lordship last summer, when he was in the North, and [at] not having seen Castle H[owar]d. From a punctilio of honour he told me he would not go to Mr. Aislaby's, though he had an opportunity to have seen the place. There is little done to the house since your Lordship saw it, but he has made vast alterations in the gardens, undoing all that he has been at vast expense doing, for a great many years past. He is now working hard to carry water almost round them, and by his plan, when finished, the voyage will be a mile and a half. I own 'twill be very fine, but 'twill make the enclosure so very large, and so great an expense, that I should rather have turned my thoughts and employed my money in building offices, etc., to the front of the house, which being one of the noblest in the world, 'tis pity everything about it should not be proportionally fine, and in the same good taste.

I saw several other seats in my tour, but I must say, take all together, no one I ever yet was at is in my opinion equal to Castle Howard, which I am told improves in beauty every day, and that the mausoleum begins to have a very magnificent appearance.

#### SIR THOMAS ROBINSON TO [LORD CARLISLE]

1732, 23 Dec., Albemarle Street.—The Duke of Norfolk died at two this morn ; it is currently reported he was poisoned by the Jesuits some months since, on account of his having made some declarations that carried the appearance as if he intended to turn Protestant. Let that be as it will, his case entirely puzzled the doctors,

<sup>1</sup> Now Lord Braybrooke's seat.

<sup>2</sup> Wanstead, Essex. This once famous mansion has been demolished.

and was indeed a very extraordinary one ; he suffered as much pain as 'twas possible for any mortal to undergo for several weeks before his death.

COL. THE HON. CHARLES HOWARD TO [LORD CARLISLE]

[1733], 3 May.—I forgot to tell my sister Mary, last post, Lord William Hamilton had run away with Miss Hawes<sup>1</sup> ; they were married without their relations knowing anything of it. She is a pretty young woman, but without a shilling ; and what's worse, her father has not much in his power to give her, if he is reconciled. . . .

SIR THOMAS ROBINSON TO LORD CARLISLE, AT CASTLE HOWARD

1734, 6 June, Wentworth House.<sup>2</sup>—I have been here since Monday, and shall proceed forward on my journey this day. Lord and Lady Strafford called here yesterday in their way home. Lady Malton has desired me to acquaint your Lordship of it, and that they shall now expect you and the Ladies at Wentworth House very soon ; her Ladyship desires Lady Mary will excuse her not writing, as I write this post to Castle Howard.

I can't quit this country without saying something of Stainbro'<sup>3</sup> and this place. The first is finely situated and has the prospect of a pretty enclosed country ; the new castle just finished has an extreme fine situation, and built entirely in the old castle style, but the room I believe will be thought too little ; the gallery in the house answered my expectations less than any room I ever heard talked of in my life, it being out of all proportion and lighted like a green-house, and no taste in the finishing ; the four marble columns in it are indeed for their size very great curiosities ; the park lays very prettily round the gardens, and ridings cut out in woods which surround the park, and which are very handsomely disposed.

If in some things Lord Strafford's fell short of what I was told of it, I was very agreeably surprised in finding this place improved in all respects since I was last here infinitely beyond my expectations. What may properly be called the house is about the same length in front as Lord Tilney's<sup>4</sup> (260 feet) ; that front towards the garden is entirely finished, being partly patch-work of the old house and partly a new building, and excepting a very fine library, little can be said in its praise, but when you come to the court front, amends will be sufficiently made to all lovers of architecture, and when finished 'twill be a stupendous fabric, infinitely superior to anything we have now in England ; the front of the house and offices (exclusive of the

<sup>1</sup> Daughter and 'heir' of Francis Hawes, Esq., of Purley.

<sup>2</sup> Lord Fitzwilliam's seat.

<sup>3</sup> Wentworth Castle, Stainborough, Yorks.

<sup>4</sup> Wanstead.





MRS. SHERIDAN (MISS LINLEY) AS ST. CECILIA.

*Sir Joshua Reynolds.*





stables) being a line of 606 feet built of the most beautiful hewn stone and the best masonry I ever saw ; these offices on each side of the house are entirely finished. The upright of the house will be in the same style as Lord Tilney's, only this portico will have eight columns in front.

The hall will be 64 feet by 53 deep and 48 high, a prodigious room ; on each side of it are three rooms, all six 24 high ; two of them will be 36 feet square, two 26 in front and 38 deep, and two 24 in front and 36 deep. This whole front will contain twenty-one windows, five of which are now just covered in. The whole finishing will be entirely submitted to Lord Burlington, and I know of no subject's house in Europe [which] will have seven such magnificent rooms so finely proportioned as these will be. This part of the house will be built entirely new from the foundations, and very conveniently disposed to lay it to the old house ; and as Lord Tilney's has hitherto been thought so fine [a] house, as some people imagined would never have been excelled, I am very glad for the honour of Yorkshire to see a pile going forward here that will in every respect infinitely exceed it. The outworks are also large, and my Lord has a very fine command of wood and water ; but none of the finishing strokes which give the beauty to the whole are yet completed.

As it is impossible in one place or country to have everything, I must now acquaint your Lordship, if the axle-trees of your coach are not very strong, you will find it difficult to get thro' the country, the roads being intolerable, by the vast number of iron-stone pits, coal pits, and woods in the country. I have never yet been out, but I have met carts and waggons overthrown, for there have been such plentiful rains of late in this country, that the roads are almost as bad as in winter.

After saying so much of this place I can't finish my letter without speaking something of the master and mistress of it, who really live as happily together, as easy to those with them, and with as much hospitality to their neighbours and goodness to their children and servants as in any house I ever was in. I never spent six days more agreeably, and am sorry to be obliged to leave them so soon. When I reflect how soon your Lordship will be here, I beg pardon for taking up so much of your time ; I desire my compliments to the ladies and Colonel Howard.

P.S.—The kitchen offices here are particularly worth seeing, and are very noble ; and I would recommend the apartments for the poultry to Lady Irwin's observation, where she will find great variety or the feathered specie[s], all magnificently lodged, and well attended on.

SIR THOMAS ROBINSON TO [LORD CARLISLE]

1734, 23 December, Albemarle Street.—There is a new taste in gardening just arisen, which has been practised with so great success at the Prince's garden in Town, that a general alteration of some of

the most considerable gardens in the kingdom is begun, after Mr. Kent's notion of gardening, viz. to lay them out, and work without either level or line. By this means I really think the 12 acres the Prince's garden consists of, is more diversified and of greater variety than anything of that compass I ever saw; and this method of gardening is the more agreeable, as when finished, it has the appearance or beautiful nature, and without being told, one would imagine art had no part in the finishing, and is, according to what one hears of the Chinese, entirely after their models for works of this nature, where they never plant straight lines or make regular designs. The celebrated gardens of Claremount, Chiswick, and Stowe are now full of labourers, to modernise the expensive works finished in them, even since every one's memory. If this grows a fashion, 'twill be happy for that class or the people, as they will run no risk of having time lay on their hands.

SIR THOMAS ROBINSON TO LORD CARLISLE

1736, 2 Dec., Albemarle Street.—Mr. Lewis,<sup>1</sup> of Hampshire, lately dead, has left his vast estate of 8,000*l.* a year to his grandson Lord Plymouth, a sickly minor of about four years old, and for guardians, Sir Robert Walpole, his brother Horace, Mr. Baron Fortescue, and Dr. Mead, with legacies to each of 3,000*l.* And if my Lord dies before twenty-one years of age, the whole estate to Sir R[obert] W[alpole] and his heirs. This may prove a great donation, and is now the subject matter of conversation here.

SIR THOMAS ROBINSON TO [LORD CARLISLE]

1737, 16 April, Albemarle Street.—Mr. Nugent, who has lately married the widow Knight (Mr. Craggs' sister<sup>2</sup>), who gave him 50,000*l.* on the day of marriage, the same sum to her son, and says she has still 100,000*l.* more in her own power. . . .

[GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

1768, 5 Jan.—Lord Baltimore's rape, flight, and prosecution has been the talk of the town these last few days, and the papers have related the story, but how truly, I don't know<sup>3</sup>; the fact is, that a warrant from Fielding was issued to apprehend him, and he has made his escape; the girl's parents are Dissenters, and in good circumstances. They are determined to reject all offers of composition. He is mad certainly, and had a narrow escape, by a prank of the same nature, as I hear, at Constantinople.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Lewis of Soberton, Hants. His grandson was the fourth earl.

<sup>2</sup> Compare *Complete Peerage*, vi. 107. The above extract suggests that the marriage took place 23 March, 1737, not (as there given) 1736.

<sup>3</sup> See *Complete Peerage*, i. 227.





RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN.

*By Sir Joshua Reynolds.*



## [GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

1768, 7 Feb.—Sir Rob[er]t Rich has died worth a hundred thousand. Lady Rich has 1,000 jointure; Lady Lyttleton<sup>1</sup> 500 for life, so now she has 1,300 to play at flatts with; Miss Rich the interest of 10,000 for her life; and he settles 50,000 on Lord L. Lawar, in default of issue of his son. Everybody inquires if Menil<sup>2</sup> is to be a Peer; he looks, I think, so happy and Peerish, that I suspect there is something in it; it will not be well digested.

## [GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

1768, 26 Feb.—Chetwynd's father has been dying this week, but has a respite. No Peers will be made as yet, I believe. Menil talks to his friends sanguinely, but I think he may be disappointed. The K[ing] is grown very averse to promotions of that kind; it is high time to be a little chaste upon that point. In Ireland it is infamous, and the more so, because that Riff Raff, with titles resembling our own, desires to be confounded with the nobility of this country, and very often are so.<sup>3</sup> It must be such a herald as myself to distinguish between an Earl of Carlisle and an Earl of Catherlough,<sup>4</sup> the son of a Transport.

## [GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

[1774], 30 July.—I have demonstrated to Sir G. Metham that I [am] originally a Yorkshire man, and that my name is Salveyne; and he says that the best Yorkshire blood does at this time run through my veins, and so I hope it will for some time before the circulation of it is stopped.

## [GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

[1775], 7 Oct., Saturday night.—I returned from Luggershall yesterday, a day later than I was in hopes to have come, for I was made to believe that the Court Leet, which was my object in going, would have been held on Wednesday; however I passed a day extraordinary better than I expected in that beggarly place. I made an acquaintance with a neighbouring gentleman, who has a very good estate, and a delightful old mansion, where I played at whist and supped on Wednesday evening. He is a descendant of the Speaker Smith, and son of that Mr. Ashton whom we saw at Trentham, or

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth daughter of Sir Robert Rich.

<sup>2</sup> Ancestor of the family of Meynell-Ingram.

<sup>3</sup> This is an interesting reference to an old grievance of the English nobility, Irish peerage dignities being bestowed on Englishmen who could not obtain English ones.

<sup>4</sup> Robert Knight, M.P. of Warwickshire, was created Earl of Catherlough [Carlow] in 1763.



whom I saw there the first time I went, and who was an evidence against me at Oxford thirty years ago—a sad rascal; but the son is *un garçon fort bonnête*, and he received me with extraordinary marks of civility and good breeding.<sup>1</sup>

We have the same relations, and his house was furnished with many of their pictures. There was one of a great grandmother of mine, who was the Speaker's sister, painted by Sir P. Lely, that was one of the best portraits I ever saw. I wish Sir J. Reynolds had been there to have told me why those colours were so fine and looked as if they were not dry, while all his are as lamb (*sic*) black in comparison of them. I am to have a copy of this picture next spring.

[GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

[1775], 11 Oct.—They now doubt of Southwell's peerage,<sup>2</sup> after all the bustle in our country. All the claimants for new peerages oppose it with their clamours, as if this was a creation, and taking it for granted that the King is to accept their interpretations instead of his own. I suppose, if he fulfilled all his engagements upon that score, there would be an addition to the House of Lords equal to the present number.

*Ergo*, if I was King, I should expunge the whole debt, and begin *sur nouveaux frais*. I think that I should have answer ready to make to my Minister against those promises. I should tell him, if my affairs required a Sir G. Hawke<sup>3</sup> or who[m] you please to be made a peer, it should be down [done] *sur le champ*, but I would not be hampered by engagements. *Qu'en pensez-vous, Seigneur ?*

ANTHONY STORER TO LORD CARLISLE

1781, 18 June.—Gibbon is to come into Parliament for Lymington in the room of Mr. Dummer, who is dead; he left nothing to either of the Pentons, who are his nearest relations, but has left all his state<sup>4</sup> to Ned Chamberlayne, who acted for him as his steward.

<sup>1</sup> This needs annotation. The 'mansion' was at Tidworth, which, though adjoining Ludgershall (Wilts), is on the border of Wilts and Hants. Its owner was Mr. Thomas Assheton-Smith, then some twenty-three years old, whose father, Thomas Assheton, matriculated at Brasenose in 1742 (as son of Thomas Assheton of Bowden), being then sixteen (Foster's *Alumni Oxonienses*), and had assumed the additional name and arms of Smith, on succeeding to the estates of his maternal grandfather, John Smith, Speaker of the House of Commons, *temp.* Queen Anne. Hence the well-known family of Assheton-Smith of Vaynol.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Southwell was summoned as Lord de Clifford 17 April, 1776, the abeyance of the barony being determined in his favour.

<sup>3</sup> Admiral Sir *Edward* Hawke was created a baron 20 May 1776.

<sup>4</sup> The estates, valued at £18,000 a year, were left for life to his widow, who married Dance the painter.



THOMAS SHERIDAN.  
SON OF RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN.  
*By Gainsborough.*





[GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

[1781, June ?].—Lord Portmore's goods are all seized, and a great deal of fine old china and other things belonging to my Lady Dorchester, and which probably the King had given her, will be sold next week at his house in Upper Grosvenor Street.<sup>1</sup> I was in hopes that that old rake and jockey had contrived more comfort for the remainder of his life. He must be near four score.

[GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

[1781], 7 Oct. [Nov. ?].—A new character is coming on the stage, and a new point of discussion for the lawyers, for our big wigs, for their Lordships. It is one whose name I have not in my head at this moment, an attorney, the son of a baker in Kent. He now calls himself Earl of Leicester, of the name of Sydney, the legal son of the last Earl of Leicester, who died in 1743. He is the undoubted son of that Earl of Leicester's wife. It is as little to be doubted that he is the son of the baker with whom she cohabited for some time. His father, whether *par un esprit d'équité, ou de prudence, ou par je ne sçai quelle raison*, prohibited his son in his lifetime from offering such claims as he now sets forth. Lord and Lady Leicester did not cohabit together for some time, but were not only within the four seas, but in the same county, never parted by any legal or formal act whatsoever. What prevents this claimant from being the legal heir to the late Lord Leicester of the House of Sydney, his estate, titles, etc.? I shall be able I suppose in a short time to tell you more of this story. I heard it yesterday only from my nephew Charles, who dined here. I wish that I had known of it the day before; it may be that Lord Loughborough might have said something of the case. *Voilà du fil à retordre*. Sir G. Young had the estate, by what title I know not. He conveyed it away; neither that [n]or the purchase money remains with him. Mrs. Perry, one of the coheirresses of that family, who now has Penshurst, loses her pretensions to it. All Sir Ashton Lever's fowls and beasts must go out of his ark at Leicester House. *C'est une étrange histoire, et remplie de difficultés et d'embarras de toute espèce*.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 'Beau Colyear' was grandson and successor (1730–85) to the first Earl of Portmore, who married Lady Dorchester, the mistress of James II., 'and had by her a good estate.'

<sup>2</sup> The above extract adds to the information on this episode in *Complete Peerage*, v. 50, where Banks is cited for the facts. The question was raised, according to him, under a writ of right sued out by the claimant as 'Earl of Leicester' leading to a trial at bar, 11 February 1782, for Penshurst place, etc. The claimant is alleged to have failed on legal grounds other than those of his legitimacy, which is said not to have been contested.

This case must be carefully distinguished from that of the 'Earl of Leicester' of forty years later, who assumed that title, oddly enough, under similar

## [GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

[1781], 4 Dec.—The Duke of Newc[astle's] youngest son is at Lisbon for his health, and not likely to live.<sup>1</sup> What is become, or will become, of his eldest God knows. His Grace's pride has settled everything upon Sir H[enry] Clinton, for the sake of the name, and Oatlands is to be sold and no vestiges left, or to be left, of his infinite obligations either to Lord Torrington or to the Pelhams. He is 200,000*l.* in debt, and will, if Lord Lincoln marries, of which nobody doubts, have probably 6,000*l.* a year to pay in jointures to Lady Harrington, and Lady Hertford's daughters, and when this and the usual charge upon the maintenance of great houses is defrayed, he will leave nothing to Sir Henry but the expense of his own monument. He is a complete wretch, and no one ever deserved more to be so.

## [GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

[1782], 29 Jan.—I have paid for more claret drank in this house since I came into it, than I did in my last for the twenty years which I inhabited it, or which had been drank in this for the fifty years that it has been built. My father, and grandfather, were served, and eat upon plate, but it was not godronné; and they drank port, and burned tallow candles, except when company dined with them, which made the old Duke of Newcastle say one night to my father, 'Dear John,' as he called him, 'if you will burn tallow, pray snuff your candles.' Times are more changed than I thought that they would be in fifty years after my decease.

## [GEORGE SELWYN TO LORD CARLISLE]

[1782], 7 Feb.—Lord Falmouth is dead; he has left his widow 1,600 a year jointure; his three bastards have 30,000*l.*, that is ten each, and the eldest, in the House of Commons, all the purchases which he made as an addition to the family estate; and this he has left to the heir-at-law and inheritor of his title. Old Mrs. Howard, Sir George's<sup>2</sup> mother, is dead also, and Lord Seaforth, and as is supposed without a Will; if so, Lady C. M'Kensie<sup>3</sup> will have for her portion 30,000*l.*

circumstances, as the putative son of Lord Townshend, of whose wife and in whose lifetime he was born (see *Complete Peerage*, vii. 418).

To the list of such cases in the Peerage given in *Complete Peerage*, i. 211, may now be added that of Poulett, which has further defined the law on the subject.

<sup>1</sup> He (Lord John Pelham Clinton) died this year, leaving only his elder brother, Lord Lincoln, to carry on the succession to the dukedom. Failing him the earldom of Lincoln would have devolved on General Sir Henry Clinton. But he married next year.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. Sir George Howard, K.B., Governor of Chelsea Hospital.

<sup>3</sup> Lady Caroline, his daughter. She married Lewis Drummond, Comte de Melfort.



CHARLES KINNAIRD SHERIDAN, IN THE SUIT OF ARMOUR HE WORE  
AT THE EGLINTON TOURNAMENT.

*Artist unknown.*





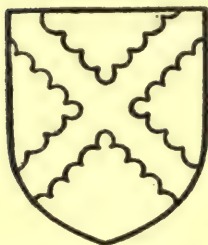
[GEORGE SELWYN] TO LADY CARLISLE

[1789, Nov. ?] 9.—Mr. Hamilton, now Lord Abercorn,<sup>1</sup> but *toujours magnifique*, will have one of his cousins a Lady, as if she had been an Earl's daughter, and no other of her sisters.<sup>2</sup> He will himself be Duc de Châtelleraut, to which I know that he has no more pretensions than I should have to an estate that an ancestor of mine had sold a century ago.

<sup>1</sup> He succeeded his uncle as ninth earl.

<sup>2</sup> See note on this in *Complete Peerage*, i. 4.

## BLOHIN : HIS DESCENDANTS AND LANDS



SO many points of interest are suggested by the Domesday tenant Blohin, who at the time of the Survey held in Cornwall, under Earl Mortain, the manors of Deliau, Trefrioc, Duvenant, Treveheret, along with the manor of Treiwal which the earl had taken from the church of St. Michael (St. Michael's Mount), that a brief statement of them may not be out of place here. Among the Cornish tenants Blohin shares with Rainald (de Valletort) the rare distinction of being easily identified as the ancestor of a family which for several centuries occupied a prominent position in the county. His descendants in the female line are still with us.

The Exchequer Domesday gives the name as BLOHIN. It would doubtless have supplied material for a dissertation on the inaccuracies of transcribers if the cursive characters had been used in that record, for in subsequent history the name appears variously as Blohiu, Bloyo and Bloyowe.<sup>1</sup> How the final consonant came to be lost there is no need to inquire. The use of capital letters in Domesday is decisive as to its existence in 1086 : the following account will establish, it is believed, beyond a doubt the identity of Blohin and Bloyowe.

Nothing is more difficult than to identify some of the Domesday manors. One very fruitful method is here suggested, viz. to keep constantly in mind their original grouping under the several tenants ; to treat them singly or etymologically only leads to confusion. This has been done with disastrous results, as will presently be shown, in the case of Blohin's manors.

Blohin's manors were Deliau, Trefrioc, Duvenant, Treveheret and Treiwal. If we turn to the *Feudal Aids* we find that in 1303 Alan Blogiou (Bloyou) held two of Mortain's fees in Treuual in the hundred of Penwith and two fees in Polrode

<sup>1</sup> Patent Rolls, 12 Edw. III. and Close Rolls, 12 Edw. II.





JANE GEORGIANA, DUCHESS OF SOMERSET.

*From a painting by Frank Stone.*



and Donnant (Duvenant) in the hundred of Trigg, while Henry Cavel and Robert le Brun held a fee each, as of Polrode, in Delionir and Delioubol respectively. There is no mention of Treveheret or Trefrioc. In 1306 the assessment of the aid states that John Moveron and Henry Trethewy held Alan Bloyou's manor of Treuial, while Alice Carminow (Alan Bloyou's granddaughter) was liable for an aid of £4 in respect of the manors of Polrode and Donnant. Cavell and Brune retained Delionnir and Delioubol. There is still no mention of Treveheret and Trefrioc. In 1428 Lady Haryngton held half a fee in Treuialle in Penwith, the other half fee being in severalties too small to be assessable. Polrode and Donnant were also divided amongst seventeen different persons and returned nothing. Treveheret and Trefrioc are still absent from the roll. The problem is to discover what has become of them. It is certainly remarkable that Sir John Maclean, who discussed both Trefrioc or Trefreak and Polrode at great length in his *History of Trigg Minor*, and who had ample data in his possession to have enabled him to overcome the difficulty, should have failed to discover Treveheret. He had even a terrier of the Polrode lands before him, and was familiar with every homestead in Trigg, and yet he blundered hopelessly. Treating of the manor of Trehudreth in Blisland parish, after stating that this manor is found in Domesday under the name of Trewderet, held by Alnod, he proceeds: 'In 8 John, Hugh de St. Philibert granted to Roger de St. Philibert and his heirs the moiety of a fourth part of a knight's fee in Trevidered; and Alanus de Bloyou died 31 Edw. I. seised of a twelfth part of a fee in Trewythered.'<sup>1</sup> His inconsistency lies in this, that having rightly or wrongly identified Trehudreth with Alnod's manor of Trewderet, he should have brought in a totally different manor, viz. Blohin's manor of Treveheret to illustrate its subsequent history! He would seem to have been in much the same plight as that familiar friend of our childhood who had lost his sheep and did not know where to find them. The terrier of Polrode, which he was careful to print,<sup>2</sup> would have solved the difficulty if he had studied it. For that terrier gives, as consecutive items, *Trefreak and Trewetberd as members of the manor of Polrode*.<sup>3</sup> They appear to

<sup>1</sup> *Trigg Minor*, i. 43.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* iii. 336.

<sup>3</sup> It is very provoking to find Sir John Maclean speaking of Polrode as having been taken from St. Michael and given to the earl (Mortain). Both



have been absorbed at some time between 1086 and 1303 into Polrode. Not that they were lost sight of altogether. In 1309, when there was an assignment of dower to Joan the widow of Alan Bloihou, we find<sup>1</sup> that she had *inter alia* a knight's fee in Delyamur and Neivalle (Deliomure and Newhall), a knight's fee in Donaunt Chapel and one twelfth of a knight's fee in *Trewytbred*. Both Trefreak and Trewythred (or Trewethert) were situated in Endellim parish, where there are still farmhouses bearing those names. As illustrating the futility of mere guesswork and similarity of spelling, it is worth while to observe that the Rev. John Carne, who attempted to construct a complete list of Domesday identifications for Cornwall,<sup>2</sup> suggested Treverres in St. Just-in-Roseland as the equivalent of Treveheret!

With regard to the manor of Treiwal (Treuthal, Exeter Domesday), Mr. Carne was more fortunate, although Lysons, from whom he seems to have borrowed many of his suggestions, was silent upon the subject. Treiwal is Truthwall, and includes portions of St. Hilary and Ludgvan parishes. The modern village of Truthwall is wholly in Ludgvan, in which parish I think there can be little doubt the manor house of the Bloyous was situated. The assignment of dower above referred to mentions Trenorwin (Trenowin), Rospegh (Rospeath), both in Ludgvan and Trevabon (Trevabyn) in St. Hilary. These were members of the manor of Treiwal. The advowson of Ludgvan was also vested in the Bloyous. That they had a mansion in the neighbourhood is certain, for in 1335 Ralph Bloiou had a licence to crenellate his dwelling place at Tregewell.<sup>3</sup> Of this mansion there are now no traces, but if it be true, as is stated by Dr. Borlase, that there was formerly a chapel at Trewell, where Wheal Fortune now is, it would most likely be there. On the other hand it is only right to state that the grant of a market weekly to Ralph

the Exeter and Exchequer Domesdays state that the earl held Polrode of St. Petrock. The present writer considers that he ought to add that while he has discovered here and there similar blemishes in it, he yields to no one in his admiration of the diligence and ability which characterize Sir John's great work. It was in the *History of Trigg Minor* that the writer first caught a glimpse of the possibilities which are both the inspiration and the reward of a critical study of records.

<sup>1</sup> Close Rolls, 2 Edw. II. p. 143.

<sup>2</sup> *Journal of R.F.C.* i. 53.

<sup>3</sup> Patent Rolls, 9 Edw. III.



A MOTLEY FAMILY PORTRAIT.





Bloyhou and his heirs 'at their manor of Marghasyn (Marazion, then in St. Hilary) and freewarren in all the demesne lands of the said manor of Treueil'<sup>1</sup> points rather to St. Hilary as the seat of the manor.

Having now traced the manors of Blohin from the Domesday Survey to the beginning of the fourteenth century, it will be convenient before dealing with the history of the family to indicate the successive steps whereby they were alienated. Ralph Bloihou son of Alan, whose widow was assigned dower in 1309, was the last male representative of the family. He left no issue, and his two sisters Elizabeth and Joan<sup>2</sup> became his coheiresses. The elder sister married first Sir Stephen Tinten and afterwards Ralph Beaupre. In 28 Edw. III. the advowson of Ludgvan and the manors of Tregewal (Truthwall) and Nayscoyk—this latter had doubtless been acquired by the marriage of Alan Bloyhou to Johanna daughter of Sir Peter Nanscoyk—were demised by fine<sup>3</sup> by Robert de Loccombe and Ralph Mayndy, the proctors or trustees of Elizabeth, to Nigel Loryng, chivaler, and Margaret his wife. That this fine operated as a real transfer is evident from the Plea Rolls,<sup>4</sup> for in 12 Henry VI. (1434) John Broughten, armiger, sued Thomas Carmynowe, armiger, and Edmund Kendall, clerk, for the next presentation to Ludgvan, stating that Elizabeth daughter of Alan Bloyou, at that time the wife of Ralph Beaupelle, enfeoffed Nigel Loryng in 28 Edw. III. John Broughten claimed as the representative of Nigel Loryng, and appears to have won his case, the defendants eventually withdrawing from the suit. The Lady Haryngton referred to above, who paid an aid for Treival in 1428, was also a descendant of Nigel Loryng, but she had apparently no descendants living in 1434.

Elizabeth Bloyou left a daughter Alice, who married Sir Walter Carminow, to whom she carried Polrode. Sir Walter

<sup>1</sup> Charter Rolls, 5 Edw. III.

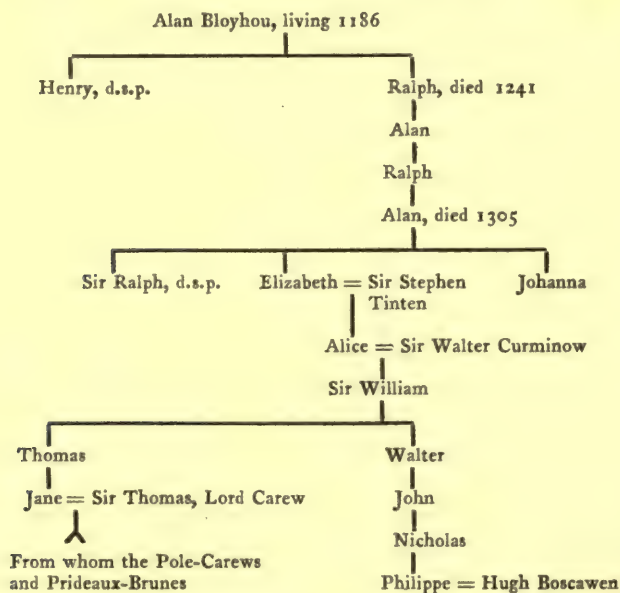
<sup>2</sup> Of Joan's marriage and descendants I have not been able to obtain particulars. Maclean makes her the mother of Margery who married Simon Berkely. If this be so, and if his pedigree can be relied on, Joan Bloyhou's descendants came to an end in 1426, when John Cheynduit died s.p.

<sup>3</sup> Feet of Fines, 28 Edw. III.

<sup>4</sup> *Genealogist*, xvii. 245. According to Vivian, *Vis. of Devon*, p. 101, and also *Vis. of Beds* (Harl. Soc. xxxii. 33), Margaret was the daughter of Ralph Beauple and Elizabeth his wife. The pleadings are silent however on this point.

Carminow's descendant, Jane Carminow, married Thomas Lord Carew, whose son Sir Edmund Carew alienated the manor to John Skewys in the latter years of the reign of King Henry VIII. With Polrode went Treveheret and Donnant, and so, after the lapse of five centuries and a half, the lands granted by the Conqueror to Blohin were finally lost to his family. It is, however, a curious and interesting coincidence that a descendant of Blohin, the Rev. A. T. Boscawen, in virtue of his office as rector of Ludgvan, should still find in Treiwal and its people his chief source of interest, and in the improvement of land and the cultivation of flowers at Ludgvan an unfailing source of pleasure.

The materials at command do not enable us to construct a pedigree of Bloyou reaching back to the Domesday ancestor.



Whether any of the missing links will be discovered in the documents preserved in this country or in France it is impossible to say. The close connection however which subsisted between the Bloyous and St. Michael's Mount and between the latter place and Mont St. Michel is worth bearing in mind when a final examination comes to be made. Mr.



Round's 'Notes on Anglo-Norman Genealogy'<sup>1</sup> is very suggestive of what may be achieved in that direction. The authentic history of the family, as it stands at present, begins with Alan Blohihoie, who held seven fees in Cornwall in the year 1187.<sup>2</sup> He was succeeded by his son and heir Henry Bloyou, who on his father's death paid relief for the seven fees in 1204. Henry Bloyou left no issue. Upon his death his brother Ralph gave sixty marks and a palfrey to have the seven fees. Ralph Bloyou died in 1241<sup>3</sup> leaving a son and heir, Alan, who married the eldest daughter of Henry de Bodrugan. This marriage involved an inquiry. Henry de Bodrugan was summoned before the king to show wherefore he had given his eldest daughter in marriage to the son and heir of Ralph Bloyou, of whom he was guardian, the marriage in question being claimed as the right of the Earl of Cornwall. His plea was that Ralph Bloyou had given his consent to their betrothal before his death. An undated charter summarized in the *Catalogue of Ancient Deeds*<sup>4</sup> gives the confirmation—

by Alan Bloyou lord of Treyudwal, to William de Brevannek of the release made by Sir Ralph Bloyou his father to Robert de Brevannek son of Clarice, in frank marriage with Rose, Ralph's niece (*nepte*), of the service Robert and his ancestors used to do to Ralph and his ancestors for their tenement in Brevannek and Penmeneth, to hold to the said Robert and his heirs by the said Rose by payment of 12*d.* yearly to the said Ralph at Michaelmas for all service; also grant that the said William, his heirs and assigns, should not be required to do suit of court outside the manor of Treruwal, nor should their beasts, or distresses, be carried outside the said manor of Tregewal.

From the numerous references to Brevannek and Penmeneth in the same catalogue, it appears that these places were in the neighbourhood of Truthwall. The exact locality is not known.

Alan Bloyou was succeeded by Ralph Bloyou,<sup>5</sup> who, on the death of Edmund, Earl of Cornwall (28 Edw. I.), was found holding six fees in Polrode. Two years later (1302) he had the king's pardon<sup>6</sup> for robbery and other trespasses committed against Henry de Bodrugan<sup>7</sup> at Glasney. It is rather signifi-

<sup>1</sup> *Genealogist*, xvii. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Pipe Roll, 33 Henry II.

<sup>3</sup> *Coram Rege* Roll, 25 Henry III.

<sup>4</sup> A 10348.

<sup>5</sup> Sir John Maclean makes him the son of Alan and gives his brothers Master William, Richard and Michael.

<sup>6</sup> Patent Rolls, 30 Edw. I.

<sup>7</sup> This would be Henry Bodrugan, son of Henry his cousin-german.



cant however that the commission touching the assault on Bodrugan should have been renewed within a fortnight of Bloyou's pardon, and that the latter's death followed within a few months. That he died in the same or in the following year is clear, for the Feudal Aid of 1303 assesses Alan his son for the fees in Treuual, Polrode and Donnant. The words 'in custodia regis' in the margin probably call attention to the fact that at the time of the assessment Alan had not obtained seisin. Alan Bloyou died in 1305,<sup>1</sup> leaving a son Ralph, who was a minor at the time of his father's death. The custody of his lands was committed to Henry Beaurepeir,<sup>2</sup> a yeoman of Queen Margaret, and the presentation of a clerk to Ludgvan was made by the king by reason of Alan's minority in 1312.<sup>3</sup> Three years later the king granted that Henry Beaurepeir and John de Stoure, to whom the former had demised the custody of Alan's lands, should not be harassed for waste.<sup>4</sup> In 1319 an order was made to the escheator to cause Ralph de Bloyhow son and heir of Alan de Bloyhow, tenant in chief of the late king, to have seisin of his father's lands, as 'he had proved his age and done homage.' This Ralph Bloyou was the last tenant in chief of the name. His career, as sketched out in the Patent Rolls, is that of one who not only occupied a leading position in the county of Cornwall, but who executed his various public offices with uncommon zeal. In 1333 he was made a justice of oyer and terminer. Two years later he was in the commission of the peace, crenellated his mansion and obtained the custody of William Basset's lands. Some years previously he had been given the command of the fortlet of St. Michael's Mount, for in 1338 a mandate was issued to him to deliver up the same to Reynold de Boterels and John Hamley, the sheriff of Cornwall. The same year he was appointed a commissioner of array and, for the third time, a justice of oyer and terminer. This last commission was attended with unfortunate results. At Glyn,<sup>5</sup> on his way to Lostwithiel, he and his servants were assaulted by the rabble—amongst whom appear however two men of knightly race, John and Henry Lercedekne—who carried away his goods and prevented him from executing his office. Ralph Bloyou's death took place soon afterwards, for we find his relict Margery

<sup>1</sup> Inq. p.m. 34 Edw. I.

<sup>2</sup> Patent Rolls, 34 Edw. I.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. 8 Edw. II.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. 5 Edw. II.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid. 12 Edw. III.

named in an assize roll of 15 Edw. III. (1341-2). From his sister Elizabeth, through Thomas Carminow her great-grandson, are descended the Pole-Carews and Prideaux-Brunes, and through Walter Carminow, the brother of Thomas, the Boscawens.<sup>1</sup>

## THOMAS TAYLOR.

<sup>1</sup> As illustrating the great value of the Plea Rolls for genealogical purposes, it may be allowable to point out that the suit respecting the next presentation to Ludgvan (12 Henry VI.) supplies no less than five generations of pedigree, beginning with Alan Bloyou who died in 1305 (see *Genealogist*, xvii. 245). Genealogists owe a large debt of gratitude to General Wrottesley for the invaluable series of Plea Rolls which he has for so many years contributed to that excellent publication.—Ed.

## A SALISBURY FIFTEENTH CENTURY DEATH REGISTER

**I**N the muniment room of Salisbury Cathedral there is a collection of Registers, or Act Books as they are called, forming an almost complete series from the early part of the thirteenth century to the present time. These Act Books contain the formal records of the Acts of the Dean and Chapter, and a great part of the contents is very much alike in all of them, and consists of records of admissions of canons, presentations to benefices, episcopal visitations of the cathedral, and matters concerning the management of the capitular estates and the correction of vicars choral, (for centuries the vicars choral seem to have been in a chronic state of insubordination and misbehaviour,) and such like things. Each book is named after the chapter clerk who wrote it, and each chapter clerk while conforming to the general type has usually in some way managed to impress his individuality upon the book called by his name by the insertion of particular matters in which he took interest or which he thought worthy of mention although not such as it was his duty to record.

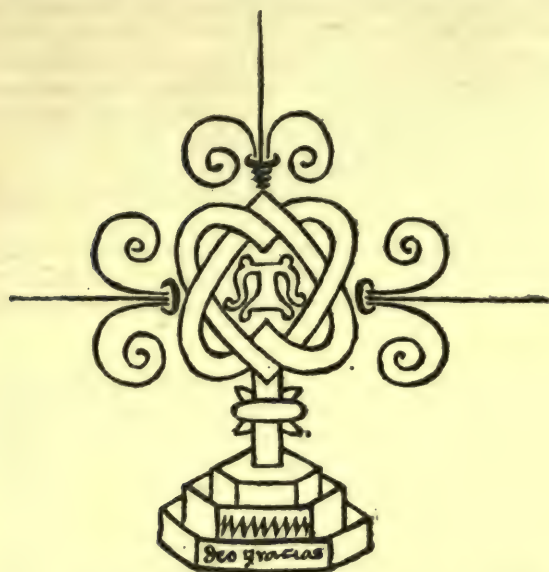
One of the most interesting of the volumes is that kept in the middle of the latter half of the fifteenth century by 'Johannes Machon clericus Wigornensis dioceseos publicus Apostolica et Imperiali auctoritatibus notarius.'

Every notary in recording his official acts used a special device as his 'signum.' John Machon made use of the two 'signa' shown below, reserving the glories of the more elaborate device for the attestation of the more important documents.

John Machon's particular fancy was for recording processions and grand ceremonies, and also for giving personal particulars, and it was this latter turn of mind that led him to anticipate Cromwell's order for keeping parish registers by about seventy years, and to keep a register of the deaths of persons connected with Salisbury Cathedral that occurred between the years 1467 and 1475. In many cases the wills are



set out in full, and in some cases the epitaphs (all now perished) and the places of burial of those whose deaths are recorded.



In the following transcript of Machon's register I have translated most of the original Latin and abridged the formal parts of the probates, etc. ; the epitaphs are given verbatim :—

*De Testamentis Rubrica et probacionibus testamentorum*  
Anno domini Millesimo Quadringentesimo Sexagesimo Octauo.

In the name of God Amen in the year 1467 on the 22nd day of the month of March I Robert Cothe Chaplain being of sound mind, (praise to the Most High,) yet fearing death to be near, make my will as follows. First I bequeath my soul to almighty God the blessed Mary and all his saints, and my body to be decently buried with lights the tolling of bells and other things usual before the image of the blessed Virgin Mary adjoining and over the Western doors of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury. And I direct that every Canon Residentiary present at my funeral and at mass shall have 12*d.* and every non-residentiary 8*d.* Each Vicar and other Chaplains of Chantries in the aforesaid Church who are not Vicars who shall be present as aforesaid 6*d.* and each chorister 2*d.* Item, after the payment of my funeral expenses and debts I leave (if it can conveniently be done) 10 marks for a veil for the high altar of the said church. Item, I leave to the fabric of the parish church of Cricklade 20*s.* and I ordain and desire that my breviary with notes which is in the chapel of Lord Walter Hungreford shall remain there for the use of the chaplains thereof, my other breviary which was given to me by Laurence chaplain in the said church I give again and bequeath to him. Moreover I leave to Thomas Bowyer clerk of the said chapel of Lord

Walter Hungerford one book of grammar. The rest of my goods not before bequeathed and disposed of I commit in all ways and by all means to the disposal and discretion of that careful faithful and honest man Master William Crowton whom I make constitute and appoint the executor of my will. Witnessed by Master William Cook official of the Dean of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury and John Hayton the aforesaid Laurence and Thomas Botton Chaplains, Thomas Bowyer literate and Agnes Baleston of the city of new Salisbury. Dated as above.

Proved in the presence of Richard Whitby Treasurer of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury Locum tenens of the Dean of Salisbury the 13th July 1468 and Administration Granted to the s<sup>d</sup> William Crowton, etc.

Epithaphium ipsius domini Roberti tumulati extra valuas occidentales ecclesie Saresbiriensis sic sculptum.

Orate pro anima domini Roberti Coth qui primo fuit chorista deinde Vicarius huius ecclesie et tandem vnus Capellanorum Walteri domini Hungerford qui obiit xxii<sup>do</sup> die Martii anno domini m<sup>o</sup>cccc sexagesimo septimo, cuius anime propicietur deus. Amen.

Memorandum that on the 3rd of November 1468 Robert Dier gatekeeper of the Close of the Canons of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury made his last will and testament and on the 5th day of the same month vizt. on Saturday the vigil of St. Leonard died (diem suum clausit extremum) in the said Close. And on the Monday following his body was buried in the Churchyard before the small north door of the same church.

The will of Roberti Dyer the above named Gatekeeper of the Close was proved before the Venerable Master Richard Whitby Bachelor of Canon and Civil Law Treasurer of the Cathedral and Locum tenens of the Dean (in remotis agentis) then president of the Chapter on the 8th day of November 1468 and administration was granted to Edith Smyth and the executors.

Memorandum that John Goldryng sometime Vicar Choral of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury died within the Close on the 16th day of March A.D. 1468 and was buried within the said church at the end of the nave and the north aisle.

The will of John Goldryng vicar in the Cathedral Church of Salisbury was proved before Richard Whitby etc. and administration was granted to Martin the gatekeeper and Robert Lavynghon on the 22nd day of March 1468.

And the said executors besides the other things directed by the testator gave to the fabric of the said church 13s. 4d. for a place of burial in the said church under a marble stone, and to the use of the said church in the choir one processional beginning on the second leaf so that it should for ever remain in the said church for the continual use of the Vicar of the Dean.

The body of Sir John Cooke sometime vicar and late subtreasurer of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury lies before the image of the blessed Mary outside the nave of the same church. He died on the 22nd day of August A.D. 1469.

Memorandum that on the 18th day of September in the above mentioned year the sixth year of the Pontificate or Coronation of our Most Holy Father and Lord in Christ our Lord the Pope <sup>1</sup> Paul the 2nd begins.

<sup>1</sup> Peter Barbo (Paul 2nd) had been Archdeacon of Salisbury. The 16th of September is generally given as the day of his coronation.



## A SALISBURY DEATH REGISTER 31

And on the 24th day of the same month and year the third Indiction begins.

A.D. 1470 begins.

Epitaph of Master Andrew Holes Chancellor of Salisbury.

Sub pede effigiei.

Quamuis putrescam dando me vermibus escam

Rursus carne meum credo videre deum.

Ad et circa ymaginem.

Hic iacet corpus magistri Andree Holes decretorum doctor quondam Cancellarii et Residenciarii ecclesie Saresbiriensis Archidiaconique Eboracensis et Wellensis . . . qui per Annos plures Procuratoris Regis Anglie in Romana Curia fungebatur officio et post suum a dicta Curia in Angliam redditum ad custodiam priuati sigilli Regii assumptus, post exercitium illius officii quasi per triennium ad residenciam in dicta ecclesia prius tacta reuersus est. Qui obiit Die Primo mensis Aprilis Anno domini Millesimo cccc<sup>mo</sup>lxx<sup>mo</sup>. Cuius anima in pace requiescat. Amen.

[From an entry elsewhere in Machon's Register (f. xviii.) it appears that Andrew Holes died in his house in the Close called Ledenhalle (it still bears the same name), and was buried in the chapel of St. Mary Magdalene, which was in the northern bay of the south-east transept of the cathedral. He was a Wykehamist, and there is a portrait of him in the MS. 'Life of William of Wykeham' at New College, *vide Leach's History of Winchester College*, p. 217.]

Testamentum Domini Jo Godryche Capellani

In the name of God Amen. On the 1st day of August 1470 I John Godryche being of sound mind thus make my will. First I leave my soul to Almighty God my Creator and my body to holy burial. Item I leave to the use of the Church of the blessed Mary of Salisbury 40s. Item I leave to the Church of Mannynford Browes 6s. 8d. Item I leave to the house of the Preaching Friars of Fyssherton 10s. Item to the house of the Friars Minors within the City of Salisbury 10s. Item to Simon Stone 6s. 8d. Item I leave for distribution among the poor and especially among such of them as appear to be in the greatest need 100s. Item I leave to Master John Goolde my breviary upon this condition, that at or before his death he shall bequeath it to another priest, and so that it shall be given by way of legacy to one after another, and so long as it may last shall never be sold nor alienated in any other way than under special obligation to pray for the soul of Richard Smythford the first possessor of the same book who left it for such purpose. The rest of my goods not before bequeathed I give and bequeath to Master John Goolde to dispose of in such way as may seem to him best and most profitable for the good of my soul. Dated the day and year above written in the presence of Thomas Caunt, parish priest in the said Cathedral Church, and Symon Stone literate, Master Richard Topp LL.B and Thomas Wynne literate, witnesses.

Proved before Richard Whitby etc 17 August 1470. Administration granted to John Goolde.



Master Thomas Estynton M.A. Canon Residentiary of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury died on the 3rd of January 1470.

Annus domini Millesimus cccc<sup>mus</sup> septuagesimus primus Incipit.

Memorandum that on the 1st day of July in the above written year Gregory Thorneton late of Aldewardbury in the County of Wilts Gentleman having at the time of his death divers goods in the Close of the Canons of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury made his will within the City of Salisbury and there died.

The aforesaid will was proved and confirmed before us William Cook the Official of the Reverend Father James Goldwell Protonotary Apostolic Dean of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury on Saint Anne's day 1471 and administration was granted to Elizabeth his relict and executrix.

Peter Seynt John clerk of the Fabric of the Church of Salisbury went the way of all flesh at one o'clock in the early morning of Friday the 2nd of August A.D. 1471 at his usual house of residence in the parish of St. Thomas the Martyr in the City of New Salisbury.

A.D. 1473 on the 9th day of May in the early morning Master William Cook priest aged about eighty LL.B. Advocate of the Consistory Court of Salisbury died within the Close of the Canons of the Church of Salisbury, whose body was buried under a great marble stone adjoining and opposite to the west side of the holy font of baptism in the nave of the said church on the 10th day of the same month of May.

Richard Southsex priest of the choir of the Church of Salisbury died in the Close on the 15th day of September and the next day was buried in the same church.

Walter Maschall the senior Altarist of the Chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr which stands immediately within the entrance on the north side of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury, died within the Close of the said Church on the 19th of January in the year A.D. 1473 and his body lies buried near the small north door.

William Fydion sometime Canon Residentiary of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury and Prebendary of the Prebend of Chesingbury and Churte in the same church died overburdened with debt (*alieno ere nimis pregrauatus*) on the 24th day of January in his accustomed house of residence within the Close of the said Cathedral and on the 26th day of the same month was buried in the said Church.

[William Fydion lived in the house at the extreme north-west angle of the Close, succeeding therein Nicholas Upton the precentor and heraldic writer who built the house. Fydion's name is still to be seen carved in relief on a stone cornice in the house; the stones have been misplaced, so that it now appears as ION · W · FID. It was the custom at Salisbury that when a canonical house became vacant for the

Canons Residentiary in order of seniority to have the option of removing to it. Upon Fydion's death Richard Whitby announced his intention of taking his house. On the next day, 5 February, there was a meeting of the chapter to decide who should have Whitby's house. Among the canons was one William Nessingwike, the sub-dean, a quarrelsome man of not very good character. When the canons met 'Adstatim erexit se M. Willelmus Nessingwike,' and demanded that Richard Whitby should be ordered to restore to their places the young trees which he and his servants had secretly the night before dug up and removed from the orchard of his late house to that of the one in which he was going to live. An order for the re-transplantation of the 'arbores iuvenes' was made, and thereupon Whitby's house was taken by Nessingwike, 'ea vice contentus,' as John Machon notes. As all this took place early in February it is not unlikely that the 'arbores iuvenes' suffered, but Nessingwike for once was satisfied.]

Memorandum that on the feast of St. Agatha the 5th day of February A.D. 1473 early in the morning Dominus Willelmus Symmes Chaplain of the parish church of Homyngton in the diocese of Salisbury died (e medio sublatus est) in the vicarage there.

Testamentum Eiusdem.

In the name of God Amen On the 5th day of January 1473 I William Symmys Chaplain of the parish church of Homyngton in the diocese of Salisbury being of perfect memory and sound in mind although sick in body thus make my will. First I leave my soul to Almighty God my Creator the blessed Mary and all his saints and my body to be buried in the aforesaid church of Homyngton before the crucifix there. Item I leave to the fabric of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury 6s. 8d. Item to the church of Homyngton one pair of vestments. Item to the parish church of Nethenewton 20d. Item to the Friars minors of Salisbury 3s. 4d. Item to the preaching Friars of Fisherton 3s. 4d. Item to each married man and woman of my parish 4d. Item to each unmarried man and woman 2d. Item to each child of my parish 1d. Item to each of my godsons 6s. 8d. Item to William Ranedolf for prayers for my soul and the souls of my parents 6s. 8d. Item to Edward Symmes my kinsman 1 mark together with six silver spoons and three bowls two basins and four candlesticks of laton. Item I leave for the repair of the king's highway adjoining Homyngton bridge 3s. 4d. Item to John Hibard my patron 20s. Item to William the Prior of Maydenbradley my godson 40s., of which he is to give 12d. to each canon of his priory for prayers for my soul and for the souls of all the faithful departed. Item I leave to the church of Homyngton one cow for the supply and annual renewal of the paschal wax. The rest of all my goods not before bequeathed, after the payment of my debts and legacies, I wish to be distributed among the poor that are most in want, and bedridden, and for other pious uses for the good of my soul and those of my parents, and for the souls of those for whom I am in duty



bound to pray, and for the souls of all the faithful departed, at the discretion of my executors, whom I here nominate create ordain make and constitute vizt. John Granger and William Hyll Dated at Homington aforesaid the day and year above written.

Proved before Thomas Hawkins Precentor and William Nessingwike canons Residentiary of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury etc.

Annus domini millesimus cccc<sup>mus</sup>lxx<sup>mus</sup>Quartus Incipit.

On the 16th of May in the year last above written, that is on the Monday next before Ascension Day, Thomas Yong one of the Vicars Choral died in the Close of the Canons of the Cathedral of the Blessed Mary of Salisbury, and on the following day his body was buried in the burial ground of the same church before the east side of the Cross therein commonly called Saint Thomas of Canterbury's Cross.

Memorandum that on the 27th of July in the year 1474 within the Close of the Canons of the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Mary of Salisbury Master John Cranburn, priest LL.B and Canon Residentiary of Salisbury Cathedral and Prebendary of the Prebend of Husseborn and Burbach in the same, died in his usual house of residence there, and on Friday the 29th day of the same month his body was buried in the nave of the aforesaid Cathedral.

William Stapull one of the Vicars Choral of the said Cathedral died on the 24th day of September in the above named year in his usual dwelling house within the said Close, and his body is buried in the said Church before the gate of the Chapel of St. Margaret. ❧

Richard White one of the two chaplains of the perpetual chantry for the soul of Robert Godmanston founded in the parish Church of St. Thomas the Martyr in the City of New Salisbury went the way of all flesh, in his accustomed dwelling house adjoining the churchyard there, on the 10th day of November in the above named year, and afterwards his body was buried in the said parish church.

Tenor Testamenti ipsius domini Ricardi Whyte  
Capellani Cantarie Roberti Godmanston.

In the name of God Amen On the<sup>1</sup> 14th day of November A.D. 1474 I Richard Whyte one of the Chaunters of the Chantry of Robert Godmanston founded in the parish church of St. Thomas the Martyr Salisbury being of sound mind and good memory thus make my will. First I leave my soul to almighty God the blessed Mary and all the saints, and my body to be buried in the aforesaid church of St. Thomas before the altar of St. Bartholomew, and to be there covered with a marble stone. Item I leave to the fabric of Salisbury Cathedral 12*d*. Item I leave to the fabric of the aforesaid church of St. Thomas 20*s*. Item I leave to every priest present at my funeral 6*d*. Item I leave to the fabric of the church of St. Martin 6*d*. Item I leave to each of my godsons 12*d*. Item I leave to the Master of Saint Nicholas and the community of the said college 6*s*. 8*d*. Item I desire that upon the day of my burial 20*s*. may be distributed among Christ's

<sup>1</sup> The date of the will is four days after the death of the testator. October should probably be substituted for November.



## A SALISBURY DEATH REGISTER 35

poor. Item I leave to John Bodington and his wife one cup called Horne ornamented with silver and gold. Item I leave to Maurice Cutteler 6s. 8d. Item I leave to William my boy and servant one bed with its furniture and my small breviary. The rest of my goods not before bequeathed I give and bequeath to William Shirwode and Richard Charite, that they may thereout faithfully make order and disposition for the good of my soul as shall seem to them best, and I make and constitute them my true and lawful executors, and John Chaphyn supervisor of this present will. And for the execution of my will and the trouble of my executors and supervisor aforesaid I bequeath to each of my executors 40s. and to the aforesaid supervisor 20s.

Proved before William Nessingwik B.C.L. Canon Residentiary and subdean of the Cathedral of the blessed Mary of Salisbury etc. 17th of November 1474.

Memorandum that upon the day of the feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ the first day of the month of January, being Sunday, in the year of Our Lord Jesus aforesaid 1474 the 4th year and 8th Indiction of our most Holy Pontiff Father in Christ and Lord Sixtus the 4th, by divine providence Pope, the singular good master John Stretton LL.D. Canon Residentiary of the aforesaid Cathedral of Salisbury and Prebendary of the Prebend of Chesingbury and Chuet in the same, made his will written throughout by my hand at his request and signed with his own hand with full and sound knowledge and mind in the presence of me and many other credible witnesses, and read through to him then and there in the morning of the same day. Teste me Jo Machon notario publico prefato. And on the 8th day of the same month etc. as last above mentioned in the same place died in the Catholic faith.

A. R. MALDEN.

## A GENEALOGIST'S KALENDAR OF CHANCERY SUITS OF THE TIME OF CHARLES I.<sup>1</sup>

### FINCHAM *v.* BEDINGFIELD

F<sub>31</sub><sup>1</sup> Bill (12 July 1644) of Richard Fincham of the Inner Temple, esquire, complainant, against Robert Bedingfeild, D.D., and Anne his wife.

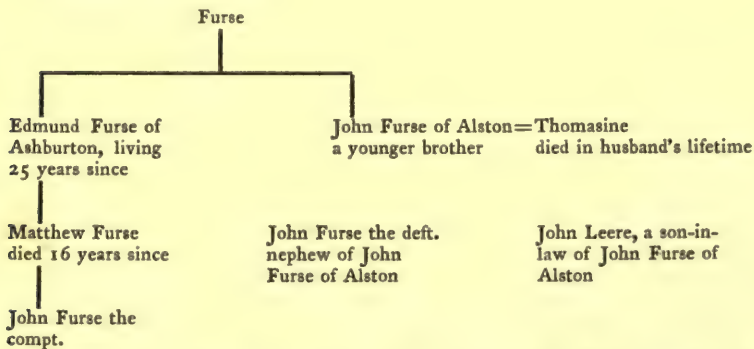
One Winckfeild Thirsbye of Aswicken in Norfolk, esquire, being the complainant's kinsman and friend formerly propounded one Anne Thirsbye, daughter of Edmund Thirsbye of Aswicken, esquire, to the complainant for a wife. Edmund Thirsbye declared that he could not pay the 1,000*l.* portion of the said Anne during the life of his father, Thomas Thirsbye, esquire, and the proposed marriage was broken off. Anne is now wife to the defendant Robert Bedingfeild of Newton in the Isle of Ely, D.D., and the complainant asks that a diamond ring and pearl bracelet may be restored to him.

### FURSE *v.* LEERE and another

F<sub>37</sub><sup>1</sup> Bill (19 July 1641) of John Furse of Ashburton, co. Devon.

Answer (21 Oct. 1641) of John Leere and John Furse of Brownswell in Ashburton.

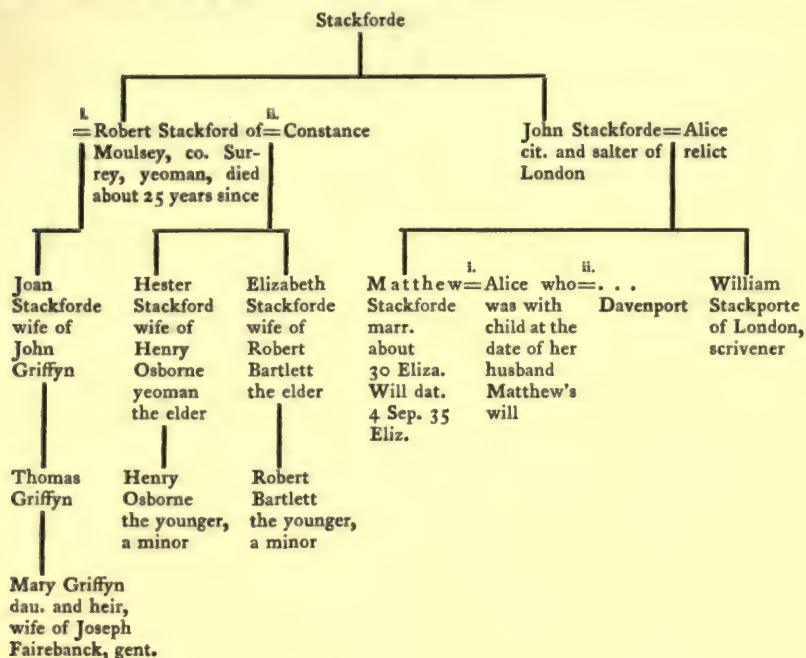
Lands in Ashburton.



<sup>1</sup> The advice given us by many of our readers has been taken, and in continuing this series of chancery suits we have noted only those which contain valuable genealogical material. The completeness of the series is uninjured, seeing that each suit is complete in itself, and the bulk of chancery proceedings is so great that the mass of them must ever remain beyond the reach of the genealogist.

FAIREBANCKE and others v. DAVENPORT

F<sub>38</sub><sup>1</sup> Bill (29 June 1631) of Joseph Fairebancke of Kingston-on-Thames, co. Surrey, gent., and Mary his wife, Robert Bartlett the elder of Twickenham, yeoman, and Robert Bartlett an infant, son and heir of Elizabeth Bartlett his late wife, Henry Osborne of Sunbury, co. Middlesex, yeoman, and Henry Osborne his son, an infant, son and heir of Hester Osborne, deceased, complainants against Alice Davenport of London, widow.

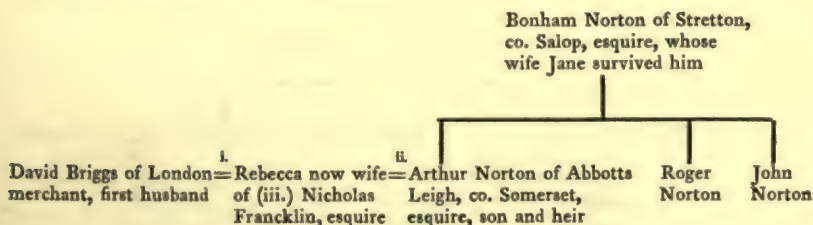


FRANCKLIN v. NORTON and another

F<sub>48</sub><sup>1</sup> Bill (28 Jan. 164 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of Nicholas Francklin of Lincoln's Inn, esquire, and Rebecca his wife.

Demurrer (17 Feb. 164 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of Roger Norton, John Norton and Thomas Talbot.

Concerning the settlement made 14 June 3 Car. I. before the complainant Rebecca's second marriage.



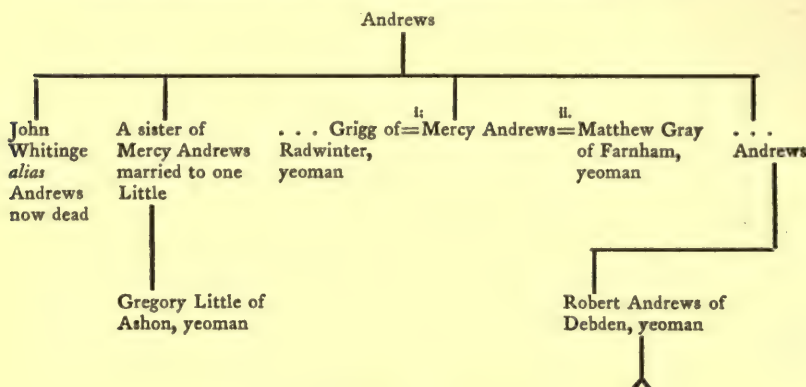


## GRAY v. LITTLE and another

G $\frac{1}{6}$  Bill (19 June 1628) of Matthew Gray of Farnham, co. Essex, yeoman, and Mercy his wife.

Answer (20 June 1628) of Gregory Little of Ashon near Radwinter, yeoman, and Robert Andrewes of Dabden, yeoman.

Concerning a loan of 60*l.* made by the said Mercy in her widowhood to John Andrews her brother, late of Dunmow, yeoman.

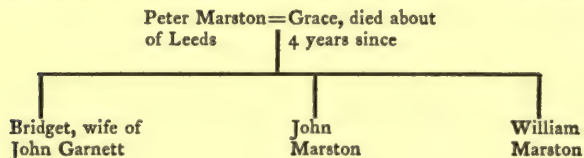


## GREATEHEADE v. INGRAM

G $\frac{1}{7}$  Bill (8 May 1628) of Robert Greateheade of Leeds, co. York.

Answer (14 June 1628) of William Ingram.

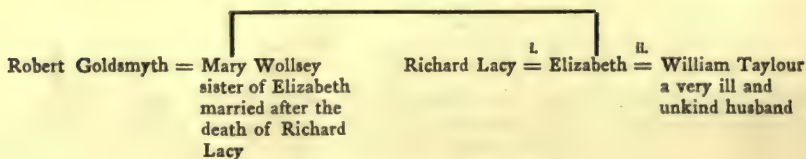
Concerning a sum of 300*l.* which one Peter Marston put in trust about 10 years since for the benefit of his three children by Grace his wife.



## GOLDSMYTH and another v. TAYLOUR

G $\frac{1}{8}$  Bill (31 Oct. 1643) of Robert Goldsmyth, citizen and fruiterer of London, and Elizabeth, wife of William Taylour, vintner, complainants against the said William Taylour.

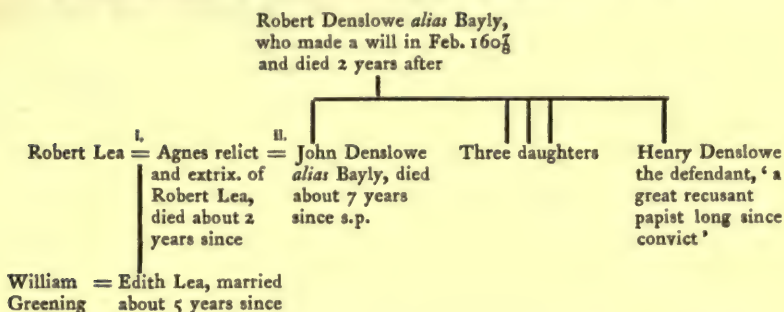
Concerning the estate of Richard Lacy, deceased.



GREENING *v.* DENSLOW and another

**G<sub>1</sub>** Bill (23 May 1628) of William Greening of Barmton, co. Dorset, yeoman, and Edith his wife.

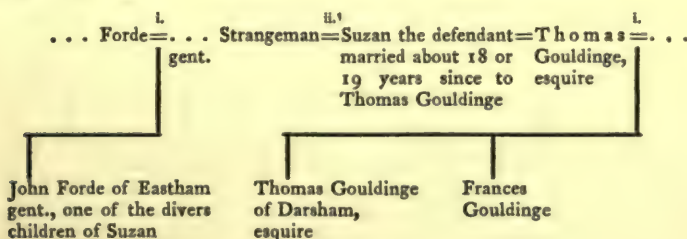
Answer (18 June 1628 at Bridport) of Henry Denslow and William Wakeley. Concerning a messuage and lands in Waldich co. Dorset, which Richard Martyn of Pulham, gent., and Margaret his wife, and Nicholas Martyn of Kingston Russell and Elizabeth his wife conveyed by deed dated 20 June 29 Eliza. to Robert Denslowe *alias* Bayly.

GOULDINGE *v.* GOULDINGE

**G<sub>1</sub>** Bill (19 May 1628) of Thomas Gouldinge of Darsham, co. Suffolk, esquire, and Frances Gouldinge his sister.

Answer (9 June 1628) and further answer (13 July 1628) of Susan Gouldinge, widow.

Concerning the goods of Thomas Gouldinge, deceased, late husband of the defendant, who had separated and lived away from him until his death. The defendant says that the goods and plate of her late husband's, which she had away at her parting from him were not above the value of 200*m*. 'There was a bason and ewer of silver and guilt, one silver and guilt salt, one silver and guilt bowle, six silver spoones, a little silver bason, a border, two jewells, a goulde chayne, three gounes, three petticoates, foure kirtles, foure wascoates, five payre of sheetes, foure payre of pillowbeares, five bordclothes, three dozen of napkyns, six smockes, foure aprons, six ruffes, six payre of cuffes, six nightrayles, six handkercheefs, eight crosclottes, six quoyfes, two hattes, one beaver and the other felt, two table carpettes and a payre of bedd curtaynes of dornex, two ould fetherbeddes and twoe ould trunckes wherein the same goodes were.'



## THE ANCESTOR

GLOVER *v.* DEE and others

G $\frac{1}{14}$  Bill (25 Jan. 1643) of Frances Glover of Norwich, widow, complainant against Arthur Dee, esquire, John Toolye, esquire, and Rowland Dee, merchant.

The complainant is relict and admix. of the goods of Francis Glover, merchant, who died intestate in 1634 in the empire of Russia, being there possessed of goods of great value. Arthur Dee, her father, being then in Russia, hath possessed himself of these goods and refuses an account—confederating with the said Toolye and with Rowland Dee his brother.

GARWAY *v.* GARWAY

G $\frac{1}{19}$  Bill (22 June 1644) of William Garway of London, draper, complainant against Jonas Garway.

Concerning the will dated Nov. 1634 of Dame Elizabeth Garway.

[William] Garway = Elizabeth [sister of Sir Henry  
Anderson, knight, alderman of  
London, *Visit. London*, 1633]

William Garway of London,  
draper, deceased, one of the  
sons of Dame Elizabeth

Garway

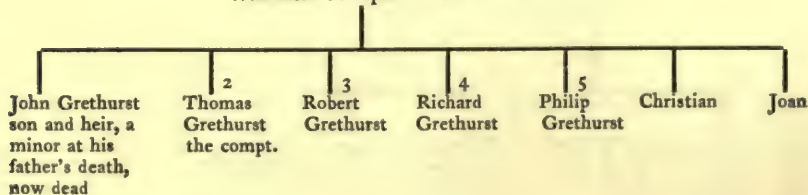
William Garway the compt.

GRETHURST *v.* CARPENTER and others

G $\frac{3}{23}$  Bill (7 June 1632) of Thomas Grethurst of Hull, in the parish of Wondershe, co. Surrey, yeoman, compt. against Thomas Carpenter, John Tyckner, Philip a Streete and Thomas a Streete, exors. of the will of the compt.'s late father, whose brothers in law the said Thomas Carpenter and John Tyckner were.

Concerning the messuage and lands of Hull in Wondershe.

Thomas Grethurst of Hull in Wondershe.  
Will dated 18 April 1620





# A GENEALOGIST'S KALENDAR 41

## GOTEHAM v. JARMAN

G<sub>38</sub><sup>1</sup> Bill (19 June 1632) of Andrew Goteham of Newton Abbott, co. Devon, clothier, and Elizabeth his wife, complainants against John Jarman. Concerning a deed dated in Feb. 161<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup> whereby the defendant granted to his son William Jarman all his goods, delivering to the said William 'one whistle and chayne of silver.'

John Jarman of Cockington,  
mariner, the defendant

William Jarman of Dartmouth, = Elizabeth, extrix of = Andrew Goteham,  
mariner of William Jarman married about 6  
years past

## GELSON and another v. BROWNE

G<sub>36</sub><sup>1</sup> Bill (24 April 1632) of William Gelson of Kirkton in Holland, co. Lincoln, gent., and Anthony Belton of the same, yeoman, exors. of William Revell of Kirkton, yeoman, deceased, complainants against William Browne, gent.

Concerning the portion of John Gelson, son of John Gelson of Kirkton, deceased.

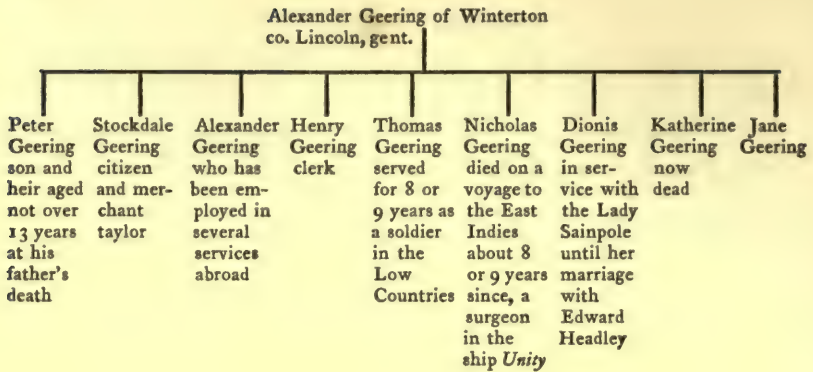
John Gelson of Kirkton yeoman. Will dated 28 Feb. 22 Jac. I.	L   —   — 	Barbara = William Browne of Selby co. York, gent. married about 6 years since and separated about 4 years since
John Gelson aged 14 years 1 May 1631		St. Andrew Gelson

## GEERING and another v. EASTOFT

G<sub>38</sub><sup>1</sup> Bill (4 May 1632) of Stockdale Geering, citizen and merchant taylor of London (exor. of Nicholas Geering his late brother, deceased), Alexander Geering of Kingston-on-Hull, merchant, Henry Geering, clerk, and Thomas Geering and Edward Headley, gent., and Dionis his wife, complainants against John Eastoft, esquire.

Will of Alexander Geering, deceased, father of the complainants, who was seised of a lease of the rectory of Winterton, and made a will 26 Aug. 1598 whereof John Eastoft, esquire, his brother-in-law (uncle to the compts.), Anthony Harrison and Henry Asharine were named exors., John Eastoft alone proving the will. The wills of the complainants' grandmother Skerne and aunt Jane Skerne are mentioned.

## THE ANCESTOR



## GOODRICKE v. THORPE

G<sub>30</sub> Bill (28 May 1628) of Henry Goodricke late of Thorner, co. York, esquire, compt.

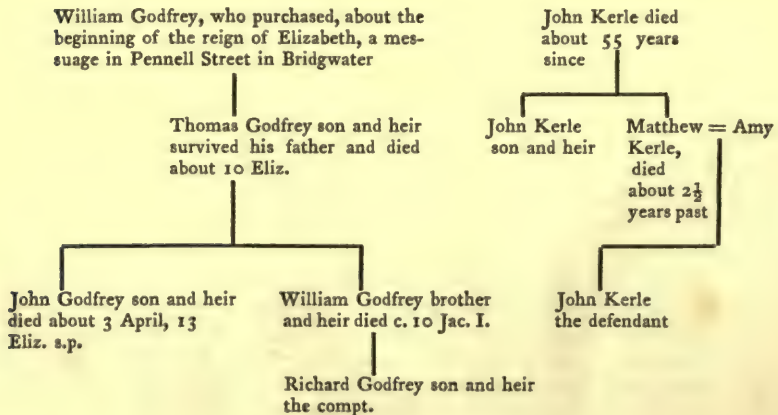
Answer (18 June 1628) of Francis Thorpe, esquire.

Concerning a lease 20 Aug. 21 Jac. I. of messuages and lands called Rowley in Bardsey made to the compt. by Elizabeth Wise, widow

Thomas Wise, gent. =<sup>i.</sup> Elizabeth =<sup>ii.</sup> Francis Thorpe of  
Gray's Inn, esquire

## GODFREY v. KERLE

G<sub>31</sub> Bill (5 Nov. 1627) of Richard Godfrey of Kirton, co. Devon, yeoman.  
Answer (12 June 1628) of John Kerle and Amy Kerle.



## GROBHAM v. ST. JOHN and others

G $\frac{1}{4}$  Bill (15 May 1633) of George Grobham, one of the exors. of Sir Richard Grobham, knight, deceased, by John Grobham of Bromfeild, his father and guardian, the said George being aged about eleven years.

Answer and demurrer ( ) of Sir John St. John, baronet, and Dame Margaret his wife, John Howe and George Howe, gentlemen, the last three being exors. of Sir Richard Grobham.

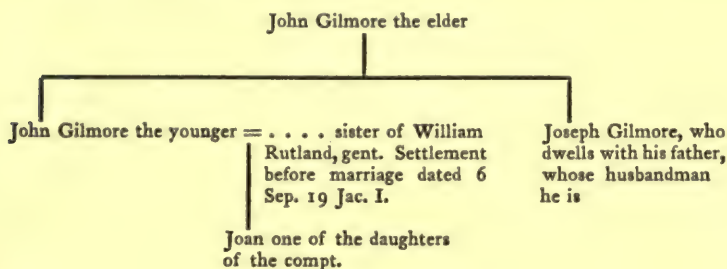
Concerning the will of Sir Richard Grobham, kt., deceased, whereof John Grobham his brother, Grace Grobham his sister, and the said John Grobham of Bromfeild and John Bampton were overseers.

Sir Richard Grobham = of Great Wishford, co. Wilts, knight, died 5 July, 5 Car. I.	<sup>i.</sup> =	Margaret = Sir John St. John, bart., married 23 Oct. 6 Car. I.
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## GILMORE v. GILMORE and another

G $\frac{1}{8}$  Bill (9 July 1633) of John Gilmore the younger of Ford, co. Wilts, yeoman, complainant, against John Gilmore his father and Thomas Newbery.

Concerning a marriage settlement.



## GILBERT v. MANNINGE

G $\frac{1}{2}$  Bill (3 Feb. 1649) of Alice Gilbert of Newington, co. Surrey, widow.  
 Answer (24 May 1641) of Gershon Manninge.

Concerning a yearly sum due to the compt. as of her jointure in the manor of Marshallles with its lands in Maresfield and Beddingham, co. Sussex, whereof John Rootes died seised.

John Rootes, gent. who died many years since	<sup>i.</sup> =	Alice = . . . Gilbert, now dead
Nicholas Rootes = gent. now dead	<sup>i.</sup> =	Elizabeth = Edward Nuttall gent.

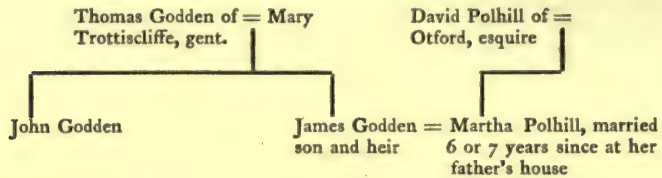


## GODDEN v. GODDEN

G<sub>1</sub>/<sub>34</sub> Bill (18 April 1644) of Thomas Godden of Trottiscliffe, co. Kent, gent.

Answer (18 May 1644) of James Godden, defendant.

Concerning the defendant's marriage settlement.

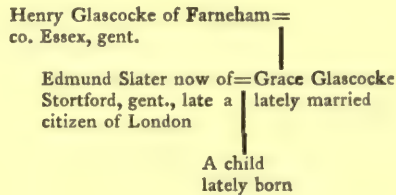


## GLASCOCKE v SLATER and another

G<sub>1</sub>/<sub>88</sub> Bill (27 April 1630) of Henry Glascocke of Farnham, co. Essex, gent.

Answer (5 May 1630) of Edmund Slater and George Jacob.

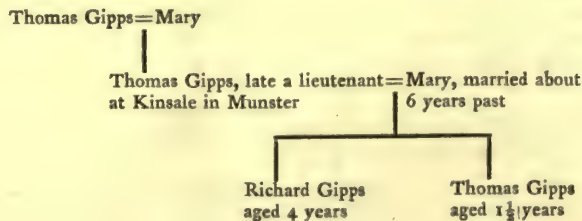
Concerning a marriage settlement.

GIPPS v. GIPPS<sup>1</sup>

G<sub>1</sub>/<sub>69</sub> Bill (21 Nov. 1645) of Thomas Gipps the younger of London, gent., and Mary his wife.

Answer (29 Nov. 1645) of Thomas Gipps the elder and Mary his wife.

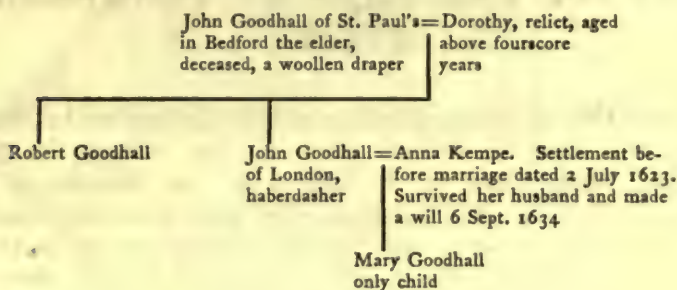
The portion of the compt. who married against his parents' will.



## GOODHALL v. GOODHALL and others

G $\frac{1}{8}$  Bill (30 Oct. 1645) of Mary Goodhall of Kingstowne, co. Surrey, spinster, by Eleanor Willcocks of Kingstowne, her guardian, who is relict and extrix. of Robert Willcocks of Kingstowne, gent., her late guardian.

Answer (16 Jan. 164 $\frac{5}{8}$ ) of Dorothy Goodhall, widow, and Robert Goodhall (defendants with Augustine Welford and Robert Wale).

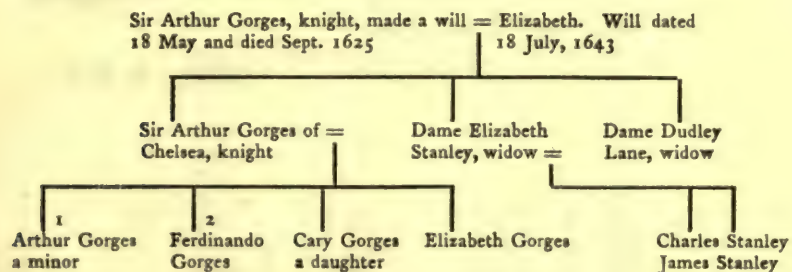


## GORGES v. STANLEY and others

G $\frac{1}{7}$  Bill (1 June 1646) of Sir Arthur Gorges of Chelsea, co. Middlesex, knight.

Answer (5 Nov. 1646) of Elizabeth, Lady Stanley, defendant with Charles and James Stanley, Dame Dudley Lane and Susan Hadnett.

Concerning the will of Dame Elizabeth Gorges, widow, deceased.



## NOTES ON THE TILES AT TEWKESBURY ABBEY

REMAINS of the original encaustic tiles are to be found on the floor in several parts of the abbey, the best preserved being those in the chapel of the founder in the north ambulatory. The original tiles were discovered under the floor of the choir at the time of the restoration in 1875, and from these and others then found the present floor of the choir was designed by Godwin of Lugwardine. There are two interesting tiles that have not been included in the number of those copied, the reason for the omission being that they were not found until after the copies were made. One of them is to be found in the south ambulatory on the floor of a fourteenth century tomb supposed to be of one of the early abbots. It is the coat of Nevill with a label of three pendants, impaling the arms of Despenser. The other tile is in a recess on the west side of the Norman chapel in the south transept. It is a shield quartering the arms of Beauchamp, Clare, Monthermer and Montague.

HAL HALL





BEAUCHAMP OF BERGAVENNY



THE IMPERIAL EAGLE



BURGHESH



BEAUCHAMP (?)



EDWARD THE CONFESSOR



BOHUN





ARMS OF DESPENSER



ENGLAND AND FRANCE



ARMS OF CORBET (i)



ENGLAND



CLARE



A FLEUR DE LYS





A GRIFFON



BERKELEY



BEAUCHAMP OF HOLT AND AN UNCERTAIN SHIELD





ARMS OF SOMERVILLE OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE





THE ARMS ATTRIBUTED TO ROBERT FITZHAMON, IMPALED WITH THE  
CROSS OF THE ABBEY



NEWBURGH AND DESPENSER





ARMS OF THE NEWBURGH EARLS OF WARWICK, WITH THE BADGE OF THE CHAINED BEAR





TILES MADE UP OF FRAGMENTS OF THE ARMS OF DESPENSER AND BEAUCHAMP WITH OTHERS



BEAUCHAMP OF HOLT AND BEAUCHAMP OF POWYCK





ARMS OF COBHAM OR PEYVRE



TILES WITH VARIOUS DEVICES









## THE TRAFFORD LEGEND<sup>1</sup>

THE ancient parish of Manchester, with its large area and teeming population, is now served by a great number of churches, I believe considerably more than a hundred in all. Down to a comparatively recent date, besides the town of Manchester itself, then of limited extent, its streets and houses clustering round the church and college, it contained the suburb of Salford, with its chapel, across the Irwell, and a number of scattered rural hamlets, several of which also had chapels of their own. Among these was Stretford. The chapelry included two townships, Stretford and Trafford, held by the same lords for so many centuries that the former boundary between them has been disused and forgotten. Both were traversed by the high road to Chester, and together occupied the south-western corner of the parish, bounded on the west by the parishes of Eccles and Flixton, on the south by the river Mersey and the county of Chester.

In the last volume of the *Ancestor* mention was made of the Chetham Society and its contributions to local history. Concerned as it has been with two Counties Palatine, the Society has not neglected its own headquarters. Mr. Harland's *Mamecestre* gave, in three volumes, a historical account of the town; and was followed by two more volumes of *Collectanea* relating to Manchester and the neighbourhood. From materials left by Canon Raines one editor has compiled a record of the rectors and wardens, another of the fellows of the Collegiate Church. The Rev. John Booker turned his attention to the chapelries. Beginning with a history of Blackley, he contributed to the society's publications a sketch of Denton, included in a volume of *Miscellanies*, and proceeded to give the history of Didsbury and Chorlton in one volume, and that of Birch in another. The same good work has now been done for Stretford by Mr. Crofton, in the face

<sup>1</sup> *A History of the Ancient Chapel of Stretford, in Manchester Parish*, including Sketches of the Township of Stretford, together with Notices of Local Families and Persons, by H. T. Crofton. 3 vols. Manchester. Printed for the Chetham Society (new ser. xlii., xlv., li.), 1899-1903.

of many difficulties and most serious interruptions ; and he has given us no less than three volumes full of matter of very varied interest.

In a country like ours every town and village has its own connection with the past ; nay, a single house or enclosure will often have a history. Stretford can boast, among its worthies, the late Mr. John Rylands, whose memory is perpetuated in Manchester by the splendid library that bears his name, and Thomas Walker, author of *The Original*. Here it was that Brindley accomplished his feat of carrying the Bridgewater canal over a moss. Mr. Crofton has added to his history copious extracts from parish registers, churchwardens' accounts, manorial records, and vestry minutes, with an appendix of copies or abstracts of many Trafford evidences. His illustrations include a number of views in the two townships, several of the Trafford family portraits, and a reproduction of an estate map in sections.

Of most general interest however is the history of the family of Trafford, lords of both Trafford and Stretford, in his last volume. The antiquity of this family is, in Lancashire, an article of faith. Nor is the belief itself a matter of yesterday. Richard Robinson, a quaint local poet of the Elizabethan age, in *A Golden Mirrour*,<sup>1</sup> left a collection of 'etimologies,' or acrostic verses of a complimentary character upon the names of knights and gentlemen of that country. Now there were many old families then in Lancashire—Ashtons, Pilkingtons and Worsleys ; Standish, Molyneux, and even Stanley. But it is only when Sir Edmund Trafford's name is the subject of his 'vision' that our poet chooses Time for his interlocutor.

Now rise (quoth she) and turne thy face towards the Ocean sea,  
A triple foorded riuer shall direct thy ready way :  
Where thou shalt finde Antiquitie, the maker of the place,  
Whose name hath bene Tyme out of mynde, before the conquest was.

Many pedigrees of the Traffords are extant, in manuscript or in print ; but most of them display certain features in common, such as dates and other particulars attached to the earlier names, which clearly indicate a common origin. Compare, for example, those printed by Corry and by Baines in their several *Histories of Lancashire* with that which has been

<sup>1</sup> Chetham Soc. xxiii.



erroneously included in Dugdale's *Visitation*,<sup>1</sup> and with the narrative pedigree among Canon Raines' collections in the Chetham Library.<sup>2</sup> To remove all doubt as to their source, Corry cites an old pedigree on vellum, which was compiled for Sir Cecil Trafford in the seventeenth century. Nor need we feel much doubt as to the authorship of this vellum pedigree. In a manuscript book of Randle Holme<sup>3</sup> may be seen, under the heading :—

'Trafford of Trafford. Collec'ons out of Auncient Deeds and Evidence of your house, Extant 1638, as alsoe out of y<sup>e</sup> Ancient Booke called the Blacke Booke of Trafford, the Heralds Booke,' etc.

what has every appearance of being a first draft of the earlier portion. The only question is whether the embroidery which embellishes it was the compiler's own work, or whether he found it ready to his hand in this Black Book, a document of which neither the date nor character has hitherto transpired. It 'is not known to be now in existence,' is all Mr. Crofton can tell us; and inquiries of my own have led to no better result.

Randle Holme then (if it is he) begins his pedigree with '*Radulphus* de Trafford, D'nus de Trafford, before ye Conquest,' described as 'a Thane, next in degree of Nobility to an Alderman, or Earle, and equall to our Lord Barons nowe, as is Proved by Ancient Tradition' he weakly adds: but 'hee had noe Surname, as most of ye nobility had not in those tymes.' Further, on the ground that his son Rafe had himself a son Robert at man's estate at the conquest, he estimates that the first *Radulphus* must have 'florished in King *Kanutus* his tyme, about ye yeare 1030, and died in St. Edward ye Confessor's tyme.' The second Rafe and Robert, he finds, 'receaved ye king's peace, and protection from Sir Hamond Mascy, Baronett of Dunham Mascy, about ye yeare 1080'; noting that 'there are Ancient deeds graunted to Rafe sonne of Rafe, and Robert his son, by Sir Hamond Mascy, & free pardon and protection, and alsoe y<sup>e</sup> Lands and bodies of one Wulfernote (some rebell): the stile is without date, and of y<sup>e</sup> Conq<sup>r</sup>s tyme.' From Robert is traced the descent of the

<sup>1</sup> Chetham Soc. lxxxviii.

<sup>2</sup> Raines MS. xiii. f. 39.

<sup>3</sup> Harleian MS. 2077, f. 292.

<sup>4</sup> Apparently an error for *Ranulphus*, as we shall see.



Traffords, of whose evidences further abstracts will be found in another of his books.<sup>1</sup>

Needless to say, in an age of criticism a pedigree like this has not gone unchallenged. Mr. Shirley<sup>2</sup> shook his head over what he found in Baines, and assumed that the antiquity of the family was exaggerated—chiefly, it would seem, because the founder of the house was (as above, very inconsistently) credited with a surname. The anonymous author of *The Norman People in England* can do better than that. Relying on a statement, in the *Testa de Nevill*, that Payn de Vilers gave to Alan his son by knight service the land of Trafford, which Robert de Vilers then (1212) held by the same service, he announces triumphantly that the Traffords were really cadets of Vilers, and Normans after all. Certainly it is startling, at first sight, to be confronted with such a finding by a Lancashire jury in a Lancashire inquisition. But a careful scrutiny of records shows that the Trafford with which we are concerned was never held by knight service at all; that it was held in chief, and not of the Vilers barony; and that the tenant, at this date, was not Robert de Vilers, but one Henry de Trafford, who was actually one of the jurors on this occasion. Evidently therefore there is something wrong. On further investigation it appears that the land which Robert de Vilers held was, in fact, Treyford in Sussex.<sup>3</sup>

It is a more serious matter when Mr. Round comes forward to denounce our pedigree as a 'grotesquely impossible tale,' and declare that 'it is shattered by Domesday Book.'<sup>4</sup> Granted the thane is not named in that record, nor his son either; does Mr. Round find in that proof positive that no such persons ever existed? Unfortunately, of all the hundreds included in the survey, none perhaps is so scurvily treated as that in which Trafford lies. The hundred and manor of Salford, we learn, were held by King Edward himself, and granted by the Conqueror, with the whole of the five hundreds adjacent between Ribble and Mersey, to Roger of

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MS. 2112, f. 133 sqq.

<sup>2</sup> *The Noble and Gentle Men of England* (1859), p. 109. Misled, no doubt, by the confused account in Baines' *Lancashire*, he himself inaccurately places Trafford in the parish of Eccles.

<sup>3</sup> *Rot. Curia Regis*, 6 Ric. I. (ed. Palgrave), 12; *Rot. Hundred.*, 210, 213; Elwes, *West Sussex*, 241, 242 n; Farrer, *Lancashire Inquests*, i. (corrigenda).

<sup>4</sup> *Peerage Studies*, x.; see also p. 65.

Poitou. At that date (owing to his rebellion, which is matter of history) they were in the king's hand. Roger had enfeoffed here five knights (tenants by knight service), one of them, perhaps, to be identified with the Gamel who held two hides before the Conquest. Three thanes (*taini*), not named, held of Roger's demesne. There had formerly been within the hundred twenty-one berewicks, held by as many thanes for as many manors. Of their fate after the conquest we have no information; but at the next survey, in King John's time, we read of a number of manors still held in thanage (*in thenagio*), a fact which suggests that many or all of them had been left undisturbed. At any rate, when one of these tenants in thanage is put forward by tradition as, not merely successor in title, but the lineal descendant of one of King Edward's thanes, I cannot myself see anything in Domesday to shatter his claim. Indeed I should go further, and say that Domesday, so far as it goes, tells in his favour.

Now from 1205, when Henry de Trafford paid his relief, to the present day there is ample proof in public records of the main facts of the pedigree. Before him was a Robert son of Ralph de Trafford, whose name, as a former lord of Trafford, is found in a pipe roll of Henry III.,<sup>1</sup> but with nothing to fix his date. For other evidence we have only certain copies of ancient Trafford charters to be found in our public libraries. The originals are, I am credibly informed, still in existence, and in the possession of the family. So many points of interest arise out of these, so rich a mine of information do they promise concerning the early history of both Palatinates,<sup>2</sup> that a scholarly edition of them by competent hands would be a real boon. Mr. Crofton tells us he has seen a few—only a few. The copies we have are very unsatisfactory indeed. The purport of some deeds was evidently, in parts, unintelligible alike to Canon Raines and to Randle Holme, to whom we are indebted for abstracting them; nor can either of them be trusted for accuracy in transcribing names. Upon Canon Raines' work, his diligence and his deficiencies, I have commented elsewhere;<sup>3</sup> he may be convicted, for example, of con-

<sup>1</sup> Now printed by Mr. Farrer: *Lanc. Inq.* i. 138.

<sup>2</sup> Besides the Trafford and Stretford deeds, Canon Raines found one important series relating to Barton and its dependencies, another to Croston and that neighbourhood. The Cheshire deeds are less complete; but for elucidating the pedigree of Mascy, for example, the Stretford charters are indispensable.

<sup>3</sup> The *Ancestor*, iv. 206 n.



fusion at times between the names Richard, Nicholas and Michael. Randle Holme's copies have every note of haste. Their versions however are entirely independent of one another; and where they are in agreement, we may feel tolerably secure. But not infrequently they differ. And while we have Randle Holme's authority for some documents not copied by Canon Raines, we have many more copied only by the latter.

What then is the information to be extracted from these copies, such as they are? Briefly, the effect of the earliest is as follows:—

1. Hamund de Maci to Ralph son of Randolph and Robert his son and their heirs. Grant of Wlfernute (Wlfret note) and his heirs (*heredes suos*), to hold freely of grantor and his heirs in consideration of 4 marks. Witnesses of this agreement (*convencionis*): Adam the chaplain, Robert de Maci, Robert de Tattun, William de Tattun, Matthew de Bromhale, Matthew de Mortun (Moston), Roger son of Hamund de Maci, Adam son of Richard, [Geoffrey son of Robert de Maci, Robert Malveisin,] Geoffrey son of Richard de Maci, Simon son of Hugh, William his brother, and Hugh de Maci, Robert the reeve (*prepositus*) and Hugh his son.<sup>1</sup>

2. Hamund de Masci to Robert son of Ralph and his heirs. Grant of Wolfernute (Wolffet note) and his heirs, to hold of grantor, etc., in accordance with his father's charter. Witnesses: Matthew de Bromhall, Hugh de Maci, Robert de Maci, Hamund de Maci son of Hamund, Adam<sup>2</sup> and William his brethren, Peter Canutus, Robert de Arderne, Simon de Turre, Richard son of Kospatric, William and Roger brethren of Sir Hugh the reeve (?), Hugh de Stretford, Robert Fitz Warin, Henry his brother, Robert the clerk.<sup>2</sup>

3. Hamon de Mascy to Robert son of Ralph. Gift of one bovate of land in Stretford, namely an eighth part of the town, in fee and inheritance, to hold of grantor and his heirs for his homage and service and a rent of 2s. Witnesses: Adam son of Orm, Robert de Stokeport, Hugh de Dotterie (Dutton ?), Matthew de Bromhale, Hugh de Mascy, Alan de Tattun, Simon *caenarius*, Hugh the baker (?), Hugh de Stretford, Robert de Mascy, Henry de Stretford, Robert de Erdene, William (the shepherd ?), Thomas and Richard clerks.<sup>3</sup>

4. Hamon de Mascy to Henry son of Robert. Gift, for his homage and service, of one bovate of land of grantor's demesne in Asselehe (Ashleyhay ?), which Uhtred held, namely a fourth part of the town, to hold to him and his heirs of grantor and his heirs (with reservations concerning pannage) at a rent of 3s. Witnesses: Patrick de Modburley, Hugh de Mascy, Richard de Kingsley, Liolf de Twamlawe, Richard his son, Alan de Tatton, Adam de Bromhale, Adam de Carinton, William de Mascy clerk, Henry de (Fulsah ?), John de Barton, Matthew de Birches, Hugh de Stretford, Richard the clerk of Manchester.<sup>4</sup>

5. Hamon de Mascy to Henry son of Robert de Trafford. Gift, for his homage and service, of one bovate of land of grantor's demesne in Stretford,

<sup>1</sup> Raines MS. xxv. f. 87; Harl. MS. 2112, f. 137. The latter omits two of the witnesses.

<sup>2</sup> Raines MS. xxv. f. 90; Harl. MS. 2112, f. 137.

<sup>3</sup> Raines MS. xxv. f. 178.

<sup>4</sup> Raines MS. xxv. f. 80-1.

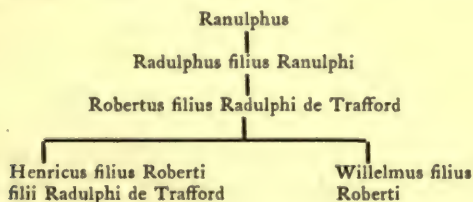


which William son of Robert <sup>1</sup> held, to hold to him and his heirs<sup>2</sup> of grantor and his heirs at a rent of 2s., with quittance of the service of a doomsman, which is to be performed by another tenant. Witnesses: Robert de Penulbury, Adam his son, Geoffrey de Bur[un ?], Adam de Aston, Hugh de Mascy, Robert his son, Alan de Taton, Henry de Aston, Hugh de Stretford, William de Radeclive, Alexander de Pilkinton, Richard the clerk of Manchester.<sup>3</sup>

6. Gospatric de Cherelton (on the seal, Chorltun) to Henry son of Robert son of Ralph de Traford. Gift, for his homage and service, of one fourth of Cherelton, to wit four bovates of land, two which Randolph held, one which Steinuulf held, and one which Robert son of Edwin held, to hold to him and his heirs of grantor and his heirs at a rent of 5s. Witnesses: Roger de Buron (Bur-tun), Orm de Astun, Robert Burun, Matthew de Redich, William de Radecl[ive] Roger de Middilton, Adam de Buri, Gilbert de Noton, William his son, Geoffrey de Burun, Hugh de Stretford, Alexander de Pilkinton, Matthew de Glothec, Hugh de Soreswrth, Robert his brother, Robert son of Hugh de Masci.<sup>3</sup>

7. Elias son of Robert de Penelbury to Henry son of Robert son of Ralph de Trafford. Gift, for his homage and service, of the whole land of Gildehusestide, (metes and bounds,) partaking in all liberties which the free men of Matthew son of William his lord have by charter, at a rent of 4s. to grantor and 2s. to the said lord and his heirs, who shall have a right of way to carry hay through the said land. Witnesses: Richard son of Henry, Robert de Burun, Richard de Perepont, William de Radeclive, Alexander son of Gilbert de Harewode, Henry son of Geoffrey de Mamecestre, Peter de Burnhil, Alexander de Pilkinton, Matthew de Redich, Hugh de Stretford, Adam de Ormeston, Robert son of Hugh de Mascy, Richard the clerk of Manchester.<sup>4</sup>

In the light of this evidence I do not think the most impatient critic will any longer deny the existence of the impossible Randolph, or refuse assent to the following pedigree, with which, be it observed, Randle Holme, when stripped of his exuberances, will be found to agree.



For the rest, far be it from me to deny that Ralph may have had a grant of the king's pardon and peace, with protection against Sir Hamon de Mascy, or Sir Hamon's pardon and protection against the world at large, or both. There were

<sup>1</sup> A deceased brother, I suppose, of the grantee.

<sup>2</sup> Raines MS. xxv. f. 177.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. 89; Harl. MS. 2112, f. 137b; also copied by Kuerden.

<sup>4</sup> Raines MS. xxv. f. 198; Harl. MS. 2112, f. 137.

perhaps additional particulars, apocryphal or not, to be found in the Black Book or elsewhere, in Randle Holme's days ; but his language does awake in me a suspicion that he read, or thought he read, something to that effect in the first two charters, which we can only say is not disclosed in his abstracts or copies of them, nor in Canon Raines' either. If that was so, the dates he adopted are now explained. For No. 1, as he understood it, the conquest seemed an appropriate epoch : date of the conquest, of course, 1066. Robert, mentioned in that deed, was presumably of age ; his grandfather therefore must have flourished some thirty or forty years earlier. Subsequent generations, no doubt, had to be spread out rather in order to make all shipshape ; but no matter. It was a good way on to a point where his materials permitted, or required exact chronology. These Traffords were stout, long-lived men no doubt ; they could afford to pick and choose, and were in no hurry to sow their wild oats and marry. With Henry, whose death it places in 1200, the pedigree is only twenty years out. But to this subject we must return later. As Mr. Crofton suggests, a scrutiny of the original charter might perhaps help us to form at any rate an opinion as to its probable date.

The exact text of the charter in question would, I think, be of interest also to students of early law. So far as our information goes, it suggests analogies on the one hand with the conveyance of a villein and his *sequela*, which is common enough ; on the other, with that of the rent and services of a free tenant. It differs from the latter by omitting all mention of rents and services, and purporting to convey a person and his issue ; while distinguished from the former by the word *heredes*, which may be taken as material, being the term appropriate to a freeholder, with an estate of inheritance, and not to servile tenure. Later Henry de Trafford is found to hold two bovates in Stretford under Mascy. It has occurred to me, as a possible suggestion, that the same holding may perhaps be the subject matter of Nos. 3 and 5 ; and that the second bovaté may represent a seignior, or mesne lordship, arising out of Nos. 1 and 2.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Farrer has suggested that a certain Ralph de Dunun, whose name occurs in 1187-8, was a Trafford, on the ground that the Traffords are known to have been tenants in Dunham (*Lanc. Pipe Rolls [addenda]*, v.). Apparently he is alluding to these Mascy charters ; though why he should assume that they necessarily relate to Dunham, I do not quite understand. There is no evidence, so far as I know, that the Traffords did hold land there.



Let us now trace the descent a generation or two further. The family archives have yielded a number of other undated deeds to which Henry de Trafford is a party. But at this point we can leave them, and turn to public records.

1205. Henry de Traford pays 20s. relief for half a carucate in Traford, and has livery. His predecessor unfortunately is not named. (Fine Roll, 7 John, m. 10.)

1212. Henry de Trafford a juror at the great Lancashire survey. He is returned as holding 4 bovates in thanage (Trafford, that is; but the place is not here mentioned), 5 bovates in Chorlton under Gospatric, and 2 bovates in Stretford under Hamon de Maci. (Knights' fees, B. 1, No. 9.)

1221. Richard son of Henry de Trafford pays 20s. relief for half a carucate in Trafford, late of his father, and has livery. (Fine Roll, 6 Henry III. m. 9.)

At about this date Avice widow of Henry de Stretford (Trafford ?) is returned as being in the king's gift. (Knights' fees, as above: see Farrer, *Lanc. Inq.* i. 129.)

1246. Mention several times of Jordan, and once of Robert, brothers of Richard de Trafford. Robert's name is struck out; not, I take it, to indicate that it was wrong, but simply that he was dismissed from the suit. (Assize Roll, 404, m. 26, etc.)

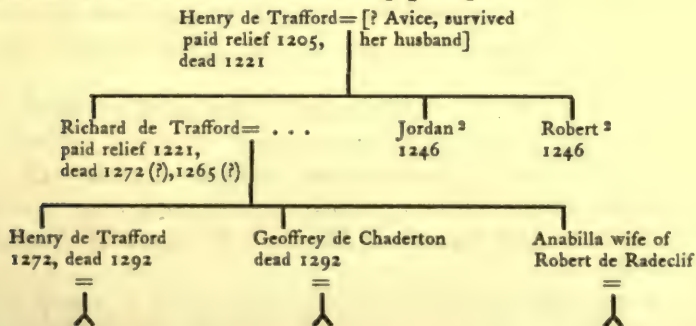
1272. Commission for an assize of novel disseisin between Henry de Trafford and Robert de Barlowe in Trafford and Stretford, apparently implying that Richard was dead. (Pat. 1 Edw. I. m. 15d.)

Henry de Stratford (*sic*) was defendant in an assize in Stratford, for which a similar commission issued in 1265. (Pat. 49 Henry III. m. 15d.)

1292. Henry de Trafford sues to recover from Henry de Chaderton the manors of Chaderton and Foxdenton, as heir of Richard his grandfather, who had granted the same to Geoffrey,<sup>1</sup> a younger son. (Assize Roll, 408, m. 47d.)

1358. William son of Robert de Radeclif recovers a third part of Edgeworth, as heir at law of Robert de Radeclif and Anabella his wife, daughter of Richard de Trafford, who gave it to them in frank marriage. (Assize Roll, 438, m. 7d.)

We thus arrive at the following pedigree:—



<sup>1</sup> Readers of the *Ancestor* may remember an account of Geoffrey and his issue, or some of them, viii. 86-7.

<sup>2</sup> Probably to be identified with Jordan de Stretford and Robert de Stretford, who were undertenants of Richard de Trafford in Stretford.



The question remains how this piece of pedigree is to be joined to that already given above ; and herein lies the one serious difficulty in the history of the Traffords. We may safely say that the four charters, Nos. 4-7, belong to a period between 1180 and 1220. If any one of these can be shown to be later than 1205, then Henry son of Robert was the Henry de Trafford who succeeded his father (or possibly his brother) in 7 John. If any one of them can be shown to be earlier than that date, then that was a second Henry, the son (as Randle Holme supposed), or at any rate the successor of Henry son of Robert. I cannot pretend to fix the date of any of them with sufficient accuracy ; and prefer to offer no opinion upon the balance of probability.<sup>1</sup>

Could the doubt be resolved, we should be better able to assign approximate dates to the persons named in the first charters. Richard de Trafford was of age in 1221 : he was born therefore not later than 1200—possibly a good deal earlier. Mr. Crofton reports a deed of 1205 to which he was a witness ; but if he lived until near the end of King Henry's reign, his birth is not likely to have been much before 1190. Reckoning from about 1195, and twenty-five years to a generation ; then, if there was but one Henry, the birth of Randolph would be about 1095 ; if there were two, about 1070. Allow thirty years to a generation, and the dates would be 1075 and 1045 respectively. I submit, therefore, that we shall not be far wrong if we set down the impossible Randolph as a real person, probably a contemporary of the Conqueror, born somewhere in the latter half of the eleventh century ; and the date of the earliest charter we have as certainly later than 1130, and most probably belonging to the third quarter of that century.

Another point that has naturally attracted criticism is the story attached to the well known crest of the Traffords, the thrasher with his accompanying motto. Among Hearne's *Curious Discourses* will be found one treating 'of the Antiquity, Variety, and Reason of Motts, with Arms of Noblemen

<sup>1</sup> In 4 and 6 John a Robert son of Ralph owed arrears of scutage (Farrer, *Lanc. Pipe Rolls*, 153, 159, 179). No surname or locality is attached to him, and Mr. Farrer has not attempted to identify him with Trafford or any other family. So far as we know, the Traffords held nothing at this time by knight service ; and one would not expect to find a tenant in thanage under the heading, *de finibus militum*.

and Gentlemen in England,' by Mr. Agarde, dated 1600 where the legend is thus given :—

The auntyentteste <sup>1</sup> I know or have read, is that of Traforde or Trafard in Lancashire, whose arms <sup>2</sup> are a labouring man with a flayle in his hand threshinge, and this written mott,

*Now thus,*

which they say came by this occasion : that he, and other gentlemen, opposing themselves against some Normans, who came to invade them ; this Traford dyd them much hurte, and kepte the passages against them. But that at length the Normans having passed the ryver, came sodenlye upon him, and then he disguising himselfe, went into his barne, and was threshing when they entered, yet beinge knowen by some of them, and demanded why he so abased himself, answered, *Now thus.*

Here we have, in a sad state of decay, one of those fighting legends dear to the heart of Sir Walter Scott. What might he not have made of it. Imagine his Norman knight dismounted, entrapped into the barn, confronted by our stalwart thane, brought to his knees by one swinging stroke of the flail, glad to escape with life and limb on any terms. Or imagine an oppressed Saxon starting up from beneath every sheaf, as the voice of their leader rang among the rafters. Mr. Agarde must have been a man of slow imagination : he gives but a poor skeleton of a story, that we may clothe with flesh and blood to our liking.<sup>3</sup>

But have we, in this crude legend, a genuine tradition of the conquest ? By the conquest, be it understood, we mean, not the pitched battle of 1066, but the obscure conflict lasting until, at some undetermined date, Saxon was fused with Norman, and they became one nation. Such traditions are rare. There is indeed the tale of Hereward, but to name another, with any sort of substance behind it, is not so easy. Those dogged forefathers of ours were not the men to weave romance out of their sufferings, or wring the hearts of their oppressors with lyrics of passion and woe. They set their teeth to resist, and went down fighting ; or in dumb resentment bided their time. Our literature was no doubt the poorer.

<sup>1</sup> Mott, I think, is the word to supply : not (as Mr. Crofton has it) ' armorial device.'

<sup>2</sup> He should, of course, have written *crest*.

<sup>3</sup> Palgrave, in *The Merchant and the Friar*, tried his hand upon it ; but he had not got up his facts. To christen his thane Thurkill was hardly more maladroit than to invent a Malory for his invader ; and the settlement he imagined for them happens to be contrary to history.



Mr. Crofton is not inclined to be too sceptical. Without committing himself to belief or disbelief, he suggests (in a footnote) that surrounding circumstances are not altogether against the legend. The question is worth a moment's examination. And first let us return to Domesday. That record summarily presents to us the hundred of Salford much as it was in King Edward's time. Gamel's holding is assessed in carucates, and is now held by a Norman tenure. Four other tenants by knight service have been placed there, none of them with fiefs of any size. Instead of King Edward they all had for their chief lord, until his forfeiture, Roger of Poitou.

These arrangements however had already broken down, and great changes were to follow. The manor of Salford and the hundred remained in the Crown; but a barony of Manchester was erected, and conferred upon Grelle. Whether the tenants by knight service, or any of them, suffered forfeiture with their lord, we are not told.<sup>1</sup> The next survey shows a striking increase of knights' fees. The baron, with his vassals, is now rated at twelve, not all, it is true, within the hundred or county; Montbegon similarly at eight. In Pendleton is a small tenant in chief. One manor has been subjected to the Peverell fee; four others to the lords of Marsey, and Urmston in the parish of Flixton, the township next Stretford on the west, is one of them. The baron of Dunham has crossed the Mersey, and added Stretford itself to his manors on the Cheshire side. The number of thanage tenants has fallen to a dozen or so.<sup>2</sup> Evidently in this hundred the conquest was not at an end by 1086.

Observe now the position of Trafford. With the baron's castle two miles to the north, the baron's feudatories for neighbours in Withington on the east, and in Barton on the west,<sup>3</sup> the lords of Marsey and of Dunham, advancing upon him

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Farrer suggests that one of them was Warine Bussel, ancestor of the barons of Penwortham; and his two carucates the manor of Ashton, which Grelley held of Bussel. (*Lanc. Inq.* i. 35.)

<sup>2</sup> It would however be possible to make up eighteen, or even twenty-one manors, out of the various quantities they held.

<sup>3</sup> Whickleswick and Davyhulme, marching with Trafford on the west, were members of Barton. Hulme, on the north, was a century later counted within the barony of Manchester; Mr. Farrer identifies it (*Lanc. Inq.* i. 70) with four bovates held in chief by Henry de Chetam in 1212, but cites no evidence. Chorlton, on the east, also appears as held in thanage, though later a dependency of Withington, which itself touches the eastern boundary.



shoulder to shoulder from the south, never was sturdy thane in more precarious position. Good cause had he to keep his back to the wall, his wits about him, and a stout flail handy. Yet there he was still in King John's time ; indeed, in a sense, there he is now.

History has not recorded the manner in which these movements were carried out. For aught we know it may have been by some perfectly legal method of pacific penetration, by marriage, purchase, or agreement, with ample compensation for disturbance. Hardly however, in the assumed state of public feeling, without friction and misunderstanding. We need not imagine a ruthless determination to exterminate or plunder the former owners of the soil ; for dangers enough lurk in a simple question of boundaries, when the new comer is inclined to be high-handed, and his neighbour is sore. The lord of Trafford may already have had, or claimed to have, some interest in Stretford. The holding of this Wolfernote (if such was his name) may have extended along a doubtful border line. In a dozen ways the conflict of interests will arise between owners of adjoining estates, even when there is no question of race or politics to divide them. In fact, if Trafford and Mascy never fell out (for tradition points to Mascy), it speaks volumes for both of them ; and if we dare not say the story is true, we may at least pronounce it likely enough.

On the other hand, two difficulties must be admitted. In the first place two other families of the same hundred, Pilkington and Ashton, have similar crests—mowers instead of the thresher : the former has adopted the motto as well, and claimed to be the hero of the story. Neither Pilkington nor Ashton however can make out as good a case. The root of the latter's title is on record : one Orm had a moiety of Ashton from the baron of Manchester in marriage with his daughter, and Roger his son a grant of the whole manor.<sup>1</sup> The early history of the Pilkingtons is all unknown ; but instead of being Saxon irreconcilables they were more probably on the side of the invader, for Pilkington again was held of the baron by knight service. How they came by their mowers it would be idle to guess ; but both were from an early period neigh-

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Farrer states that this Orm and Roger were ancestors of Kirkby of Kirkby Ireth ; and that the Ashtons descend from a later Orm de Ashton, who was again an undertenant of Kirkby there (*Lanc. Inq.* i. 57). His conjectures about the Pilkingtons may be found *ibid.* 55.

bours of the Traffords, and very possibly allied to them by blood.

I should not myself give much weight to the objection, taken by Shirley and others, that the crest was only granted by the heralds in the sixteenth century. For that matter, a crest may have been devised and used long before the date at which some herald managed to secure a fee for it.<sup>1</sup> In its present form the Trafford crest is not likely to be much earlier than the date of the alleged grant. The addition of the sheaf is a note of decadence. It detracts from the design, and would look still more out of place if set upon a helmet. At Wilmslow, as Mr. Crofton mentions, the thresher may yet be seen in glass of the sixteenth century, probably coeval with the heralds' earliest visitations.<sup>2</sup> Here, if I remember right, he is very freely treated, standing on a mound, with no sheaf. The Pilkington mower had certainly been in use a century or so before: we find that engraved upon seals of the time of Henry VI. After all it is the antiquity of the tradition, not of the crest, that we were discussing.

At any rate we have no ground for supposing that this legend was invented to adorn a pedigree. The pedigree, we know, is later than Mr. Agarde's tract. Before Mr. Agarde we have the *Golden Mirrour*; and the crest admittedly can be traced still further back than that. Nor is the pedigree itself, with all its faults, one of those concoctions round which the figments of imagination are prone to gather. As we have seen, it is on the whole a sound piece of work enough. The judicious critic need not tear it up in his haste, but may be content to prune off a few excrescences.

There is yet another aspect of the matter. The survey of King John's time gave us a dozen or more thanage tenants in Salfordshire. What of the others? Did they all descend from thanes of King Edward? How came Trafford afterwards to be distinguished from the rest? An examination of the list will furnish the answer to these questions. Some of the thanes' holdings had by the thirteenth century come to the hands of invaders, such as Montbegon and Nevill. Notton, a

<sup>1</sup> To the best of my recollection it appears in the official copy of the first visitation of Lancashire, and what was passed at a first visitation may be of any age.

<sup>2</sup> In a window at the rectory; but I have no doubt it was among the heraldic glass in which the church was once so rich.



stranger from Yorkshire, was possessed of one : undertenants of neighbouring manors, Radeclive, Middleton, Chetham and Pilkington, held others. Besides Trafford, only Chorlton, Prestwich and Pendlebury were (as the Scotch say) of that ilk ; and Pendlebury's was quite a recent grant.<sup>1</sup> A few generations later and Chorlton, Prestwich and Pendlebury had vanished. But the Traffords continued in Trafford, with their male line unbroken, their ancient charters safe in their strong box, their name, their tenure and their legend to focus as it were their tradition of ancient lineage.

Once again mark the revenges that time has brought. In Withington the first Henry of their line became a tenant under Grelle. Out of that tenancy grew up so close an alliance that in the fourteenth century Trafford was bearing arms of affection granted by his lords.<sup>2</sup> Where the Norman's castle stood stands now a house of charity and good learning, called after the name of the thane's son ; for Chetham is a branch of Trafford.<sup>3</sup> It was Richard de Trafford of our pedigree who acquired, from a widowed daughter of the house of Mascy, the whole manor of Stretford, where he and his ancestors had been tenants ; and his descendants are lords there to this day. Mascy himself added a release of his mesne lordship, and thus the tide of invasion was rolled back across Mersey again. Nor was that all. Early in the fifteenth century Sir Edmund, the first of that name, married Alice Venables, a great Cheshire heiress, who not merely shared the representation of the barons of Dunham, but was actually the senior coheir, or heir of line. Dunham Massey formed no part of her rich inheritance. Powerful intruders had become possessed of those lands ; and only after many years were they recovered for her sister's heirs, the Booths of Dunham.

Consider now one moment all it means, this endurance of one family in unbroken line through seven or eight centuries : how manifold the contrary chances. It means that, generation after generation, the right heir is found a man healthy, vigorous and prudent, prospering in business, fortunate in

<sup>1</sup> See the *Ancestor*, iv. 209.

<sup>2</sup> Grelle with a border. See seals of Sir Henry de Trafford, Raines MS. xxv. ff. 118, 181. An imperfect example may also be seen among the Deeds of the Court of Wards, Box 146 D, No. 8. The coat with a griffin is not found till the time of Henry VI.

<sup>3</sup> See the *Ancestor*, viii. 87.



marriage, to raise up offspring sound as himself, to live unscathed by fate, and to hand down an undiminished patrimony. In so long a chain of happy accident, it cannot well be but that, sooner or later, one link will prove weaker than the rest.

Consider also this strange growth—a tree so tall, the main stem green and luxuriant, yet well nigh bare of branches. Traffords there are yet of the Swythamley line, though Traffords only on the distaff side. Some early offsets were disguised under other names, such as Chaderton, Chetham, Stretford, Hulme, and perhaps more. But all the younger sons of all those later generations—where are they? Those that founded families can be counted on the fingers of one hand. John Trafford of Urmston had sons enough; but his granddaughter carried Newcroft in marriage to a Werberton. The three brethren of Prestwich left no heirs. The Traffords of Garret flourished for a while; but their inheritance was parted among sisters about the time that William Trafford, a second brother of the elder house, became owner of the monks' grange of Swythamley, and had sons born to him in his old age. After him John Trafford of Croston, whose heirs succeeded to Trafford, and the tale is told.<sup>1</sup>

These things are not wholly accident. Family tradition, family policy in the long run will make its influence felt. In the history of the family we are considering, on one occasion the normal succession was wilfully broken, when the rightful heir was disinherited in the interest of Sir Cecil Trafford, a half brother. Otherwise the deliberate policy of the Traffords for ages has been to make strict settlements, to secure before everything the succession of an heir male. From 1205 till far on in the eighteenth century did Trafford pass from father to son with but two exceptions, once when a grandson, and once when a brother carried on the line. Yet ultimately the weak link was bound to appear. In 1779 Humphrey Trafford died without issue; but family tradition prevailed, and his far off cousin, John Trafford of Croston, was made his heir.

<sup>1</sup> A family named Trafford in the eastern counties, I am aware, has long claimed to belong to this house. Their pedigree, however, though accepted by the heralds at a visitation of Essex, is nevertheless open to very grave doubts. At best, though the present representatives have clung to the name, their connection with the old stock is only through a number of female descents, native and foreign.

Thus it is that the founder of the house has yet a successor of his name and blood.

The lack of branches tells the same tale. Other families of note have advanced their younger sons till these have often thrown their elders into the shade. To purchase a rich marriage was one favourite method of advancement. Two cadets of Trafford were thus provided for, but in either instance, as it happened, the representation of the family has since devolved upon the fortunate bridegroom or his heir. Not one of them has ever risen to eminence or wealth : we may seek in vain for a statesman or prelate, a judge, or a great commander of that house. Were they then duller or less enterprising than their neighbours ? Their success in life, I believe, was sacrificed to the family policy. For the sake of the heir his brothers' interests were neglected, their portions cut down, their energies cramped. They farmed perhaps some corner of the brother's lands : in penury they nursed their lonely pride ; or lingering about the old home became dependants on another's bounty. Either they did not marry ; or, if they did, their children sank lower in the social scale. Hence it comes that history knows nothing of them.<sup>1</sup>

But to return, by all means let us try and be fair even to an old-fashioned maker of pedigrees on vellum. When confronted by a serious difficulty, his attitude is not perhaps that of the modern critic. If his dates will not bear examination, they do not profess to be more than estimates. His knowledge of history may not have been exact, according to our standards. But for him were no public libraries, no books of reference. The public records were hardly accessible. Old chronicles in manuscript, or the quaint annalists who served them up in print, would be his best sources of information. We smile when he promotes his thane to so exalted a position. Twenty-one personages of peerage rank in a single hundred !

<sup>1</sup> Two held the living of Wilmslow. In one generation they were all given an estate for life only in small portions of the family property. One nephew lived and died chaplain at Trafford. There were yeoman and husbandmen of the name in and near Hellesby, where the Traffords held land ; but these may have been offshoots of a Cheshire family at Bridge Trafford. Perhaps the most successful found a career as steward of his brother's Cheshire estate. After Sir Cecil's time, no doubt, their religion and the penal laws put them at a disadvantage.

Why even in the age of Victoria coronets are not so thick as that upon the ground, unless it be in the hundred that includes Grosvenor Square. No doubt these things betray a certain leaning towards the marvellous, a desire also to magnify his client. But surely we can afford to deal gently with amiable weaknesses like these ; and keep strong language in reserve for offenders of a different class.

W. H. B. BIRD.



## GEORGICS<sup>1</sup>

THE name of the ancient house of Gorges has a familiar sound in the ear of the genealogist-antiquary, not so much, it may be, by reason of its antiquity as for the remembrance of the strange shield of arms of the gorge or whirlpool with which one line of the family played upon its name. This whirl of blue and white water decorates the cover of Major George's history of his family, but we are bound to point out that the device is here represented as a feeble curve which recalls the ammonite of geologists rather than the whirlpool of the armorists, and that the little crest on its full-faced helm is set in the absurd sidelong position of the Victorian seal-engravers. To open the book at its frontispiece is discouraging to the reviewer. The figure of a mailed knight which guards the entrance to this history may indeed be from an eighteenth century sketch of a rubbing: the eighteenth century 'making a draft of an antick figure' was careless of detail, and the rococo shield of arms, the unlikely sword with its improbable belt, and the King Charles spaniel at the knight's feet may all lie at the door of the eighteenth century artist. But the shield of arms is not that of any Gorges, and although the label runs 'Sir Godfrey Gorge, kn<sup>t</sup>., Pembridge, ob<sup>t</sup>. Ju<sup>y</sup> 7, 1301,' the industry of Major George has as yet found no Sir Godfrey amongst his ancestral figures. But the forefathers of the author were in Pembridge at the end of the seventeenth century, and one of their descendants may well have adopted a brass effigy in the church for an ancestor.

More unfortunately does the narrative history begin—

THE FAMILY OF GEORGE AND GEORGES. SINCE THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

The progenitor of the above family names now in existence, was a certain Normandy knight, by name Radulph de Georges (*Inter alia*, married to a de Morville, whilst others of the name during a period of 200 years married four of the family de Morville) who was amongst those historical personages that accompanied William, Duke of Normandy, to the conquest of England, on the 14th of October, 1066.

<sup>1</sup> DE GEORGES from Gauges in the Cotentin, Normandy, 1065. *Pedigrees and History of the Families of George and Gorges*. (Privately printed, 1903.)

He is named in the 'Battel Roll' of Hastings amongst the 629 surviving knights of the momentous conflict that took place on that autumn day when Harold II. was defeated with an enormous number of his followers, in the sanguinary battle which lasted from early morn to nightfall.

Radulph de Georges was one of the 217 knights and gentlemen that remained in this country (and as will appear in the following account, greatly intermarried amongst themselves) to whom King William I. gave, in return for their valuable services and loyalty, vast possessions of lands and emoluments.

The construction and even the punctuation of Major George's history do not make for lucidity, but these opening sentences offer many points of attack. First of all we may point out that Major George offers all bearers of the surname George or Georges a descent from a Norman house, in the belief that all such must spring from a common ancestor, and this is a heedless generosity. Then for our 'Radulph de Georges.' For the existence of this hero Major George can cite no evidence whatever. His fame, it may be, should be evidence enough, but that fame, insistent in the ears of his descendant, has not reached our own. Spell the 'Battel Roll' as quaintly as we may, we shall not add to its authenticity. 'Radulph's' marriage with a Morville must also rest upon the family recollection of the ceremony, and for his vast possessions in lands and emoluments Domesday is not called to witness. 'Historical personages,' as Major George has it, accompanied Duke William in great number, but the duke's success at Hastings is easily explained when we consider the mighty throng of unhistorical personages who came with him to be ancestors of the peerage and the landed gentry. With this *arrière ban* Radulph must be allowed to take his place until more proof may be found for him.

The descendants of Radulph 'scattered themselves over various parts of England,' eluding their descendant's every attempt to catch and identify them. Major George deplors the want of education of these earlier ages, and especially their careless spelling, a fault which their illiterate cunning persuades them to cloak with the use of Latin in documents, to the manifest annoyance of Major George, whose earlier notes are presented in this wise :—

*Note.*—Anno, 1221 Dominom Georgium de Georges mentioned with Humfredo Bowne Comite Hereforde & Rogero Mortimer, Domino de Chicke, with regard to the villain de Kardyf (Cardiff) and mentioned as a great soldier, and Governor of Cardiff Castle.



With Ives de Gorges and Thomas de Gorges living in the reign of Henry III. Major George should be on surer ground, but his method of setting down the many notes he has collected concerning his surname is a bewilderment to the reader and authorities and references are seldom quoted. Here at least arises a family which for some generations had its share in history. Ralph de Gorges was at Carlaverock clad in a coat *mascle de or e de asur*, and he was summoned to Parliament as a baron under Edward II. This baron's son Ralph died without issue, and a daughter who had married a Russel carried name and arms to her husband's family. The history of the house cannot be said to be illuminated by Major George's researches. Scrappy notes from documents in a language unfamiliar to the author, and in a handwriting obscure to him, make a confused history too difficult to follow. For an example of Major George's transcription of documents we may quote one of his many lists of witnesses amongst whom a Gorges is found. Of Ralph de Gorges he writes :—

1320. He is a witness with others to a charter granted by Edward II., 17 February, made to the Burgesses of Bristol, it is signed by the king and witnessed at Gloucester. These are the actual signatories. It will be seen that within three years of his death he signed his name as Georges and not Gorge.

Edmundo, comite Kant'  
 Johanne de Brittain  
 Comite Richmond  
 Edmondo comite Brundel'  
 Thom a Wake  
 Johanne de Sancto Johanne de Basing  
 Radulphus de Georges  
 Gilberto Petebay (seneschallo hospitii nostri)

We may well doubt whether Major George can ever have seen an original document of the medieval period. His belief that Edward II. signed his name to this charter or to any other charter shows that to Major George the picture in Mangnall or Mrs. Markham of King John writing *John R.* at the foot of Magna Carta with a long swan quill presents no difficulty. The tale of 'Georges' and 'Gorges' illustrates the prepossession of our author with the idea that the name of the medieval family was generally written Georges and not, as common experience shows, Gorges. It will be seen that Ralph is allowed alone amongst the witnesses to break the syntax of the attesting clause by keeping his name in the nomi-



native case. The arrangement of the names show that Major George is unaware that John of Brittany was the Earl of Richmond, who is here given a line to himself; and we may add whilst the list is before us, that 'Thom a Wake' should take the less colloquial form of 'Thoma Wake,' and that the name of Gilbert the Steward should be Petchey or Peche, and not Petehey.

Another example which will show the extreme inadvisableness of following Major George as a genealogist in the medieval period here follows:—

1290, Sept. 18.—Commission of oyer and terminer to Nicholas de Segrave the elder . . . on complaint by William, Abbot of Marivale, that Ralph de Georges, Robert de Eversdon, William le Messer of Dunton, Robert de Mere, Thomas Curteys, Richard Matheu, etc., cut down and carried away the said Abbot's trees in his wood at Dunton, and took away his sheep from his fold at Rulowe, co. Warwick.

(*Note.*—The 'William le messer of Dunton' above mentioned is the son of Sir Ralph and Joane who were of Dunton, he would be a half brother of this Sir Ralph de Georges.)

No reference is given for this document, but we can easily identify it with an entry in a patent roll of 18 Edward I. Marivale should be Murivale, and we discover that Major George sustains his theory that Georges is the usual form of the surname in early times by deliberately doctoring Gorges into Georges wherever he finds it. This patent roll, for instance, has the name plainly Gorges in the original. But worse than this is the reckless guess of the note. Reading between the lines an antiquary will see that Ralph de Gorges is associated in the abbot's plea with the servants who cut wood and drove sheep under his orders. William 'le messer' of Dunton is of course Ralph's mower or harvester, the word 'messer' bearing no other translation. Yet this yokel is presented us as the brother of his master, a great baron of the land, for reasons which to Major George are so apparent that he sees no need to refer us to them.

A William de Georges, who may have been identical with a William, brother of Ralph de Gorges, living in 1307, is said to have married first one of the Hydes of Pymperne in Gloucestershire, ancestors according to Major George of the famous Lord Clarendon, 'whose daughter Lady Jane (*sic*) married James II.' With his second wife, a Penytton, he is said to have acquired the manor of Baunton,

and to have founded the old family of Georges, lords of Baunton until its sale by William George who died in 1707. An old family, and conscious of the fact, they were ready in the person of Robert George, unjustly cut off from the succession, to declare in 1727 that their Gloucestershire land had been enjoyed by them 'between five and six hundred years.' Gentlemen and squires, they were famous in Cirencester, which one of them garrisoned for the Parliament, and it may be mentioned here that they possessed an oak chest with their arms and letters, one of the most delightful of its kind. It is now owned by the town of Cirencester, and its date of 1539 is misread by Major George as 1537. Of this family we have wills and inquests and other evidences by which we may follow the main line at least, although the marriage of Gyles George in the fifteenth century to 'a Miss Swayne of Bristol' makes us feel that Major George is not yet at a period in which he may be at ease.

From a branch of this family Major George claims descent. So far as we may follow his methods his proof is as follows. A Robert George is son to John George, a younger son of George of Baunton. He died in 1623, according to Major George, who confuses him with a cousin. Two of his sons, John and William, are squires in rank and men of good and ascertained position.

Major George produces for us another son, Samuel George. This Samuel is said to have been born at Baunton on 3. July 1597, and a search for the proof of this fact shows that to Major George a parish register entry of a christening is an entry of the date of birth and an entry of a burial one of a death date. The other facts which Major George has collected concerning him are as follows :—

He married and had with other issue—

I. Samuel.

II. Philip George of Twyford, Eardisland, co. Hereford.

From this Philip George the descent of Major George through Herefordshire yeomen, Bristol distillers and bankers, and soldiers at the last, seems clear enough.

But will it be believed that this alleged younger son of a family of Gloucestershire squires is carried across country to Herefordshire to account for the presence in Eardisland of a family of George which the calendar of wills at Hereford show to have been at Eardisland by 1571 at the latest. A younger



son, too, who at the last visitation of Gloucestershire was returned as having died unmarried. There can be little doubt that we have here a pedigree which will not stand against facts and dates—a genealogy which should be nailed to the counter.

At this noteworthy point we leave Major George's researches. Before publishing a second edition of his book he will do well to give some attention to these details. His whole attitude of mind saves him from any suspicion of tampering with the evidences before him, but that he should see no difficulty here in his attempt to find ancestors in an historic family is characteristic of a school of genealogists which ought not to have survived the credulous century behind us.

In the new edition of his book Major George might well abandon the remarkable synopsis of English history which fills several pages of what is already a heavy book, a synopsis which tells us that the language of the English under Henry I. was *Norman* (!), that the House of Commons was 'practically established by the nobles selling land to commoners in consequence of the crusades,' and that printing was invented in the reign of Henry VII. It is difficult to say why Major George should set down faulty spelling as one of the special characteristics of the reign of Richard III., but it is in any case an ungenerous reproach from an archæological writer who has so much identified himself with his subject that his own spelling does not follow the cramped rules of the moderns.

Major George's industry has been so great that no searcher for notes of the Georges or Gorges families can afford to neglect the mass of his collections. It is sad that such industry should have given us in the end, through mere carelessness in the setting down, so little sound fact in which we may put trust. Such books as this almost persuade us that a genealogist should consign pitilessly to the fire the first years of his note-books, to begin work again in the light of his hardly won experience.

O. B.



## THE COCKS OF THE NORTH

THE sixteenth century saw the history of the Gordons begun by Giovanni Ferreri, a monk who had exchanged Piedmont for Paris and Paris for Kinloss in Morayshire. Tooting is to-day more near and neighbourly to Ballarat than was Piedmont to Kinloss in 1545, but this travelled monk took kindly to his new quarters, munched his bannock in content, and after seventeen years in Morayshire wrote down upon a very few sheets of paper the history of the ancestors of his patron the Earl of Huntly. For this history he read all the Scottish annals and chronicles which he could come by in the Latin, for he boggled at the Scots vernacular, although Master William Gordon, the good earl's secretary, aided him with an outline of the story written in the Morayshire idiom.

Much manuscript and printed matter has followed the essay of Ferrerius, but as we learn from the preface to the first volume of the New Spalding Club's *House of Gordon* that there have been no less than one hundred and fifty-seven 'chief branches' descended from the elder or northern Gordons alone, it would seem that the twentieth century will be far on its way before the definitive history of the house and name may be achieved.

The great Scottish families are at last admitting the modern spirit of wholesome doubt to the chronicle books of their ancestors. In older days the Gordons would have chosen their first forefather from some ancient king with a Latin name for all proof of his living and reigning, from a duke of Florence, a Roman patrician or Hungarian magnate. But Captain Swinton, who would claim the hundred and fifty-seven chief branches of Gordon for a substantial addition to the cadets of Swinton is found asking whether any human being of the name of Gordon can be found in Scotland before 1200, and his challenge has never been taken up.

Sir Adam Gordon who had Strathbogie in 1319 is taken by the editor of the *House of Gordon* as the first Gordon with a record to his name. By that name he should have come

from the south, and it is a significant fact, which the editor does not note in his preface, that this rare name of Adam was a recurrent one with our own thirteenth century house of the Gurdons of Hampshire.

From Adam Gordon of Strathbogie the records of the main lines seem to run clearly and from this their first beginning the name spreads itself about Scotland. The elder son had the northern estates and the younger the lands in the south. In the fourth generation from Adam a more notable parting began. John Gordon, grandson of Adam, had two sons. Sir Adam Gordon, the younger of the two, fell to the English bow at Homildon Hill and left a daughter and heir, Elizabeth, who married a Seton from the border. Sir John the elder brother was followed by Jock Gordon of Scurdargue, and Thom Gordon of Ruthven, his bastard sons by 'Elizabeth Cruickshank, Aswanlie's daughter.' Thus we see that the Gordons of the north are for the half of them of bastard origin and for the other half cadets of Seton, for Elizabeth Gordon's descendants bore her name and arms. That the forefathers of the proud stomached lairds who swarmed in Aberdeen, Banff, Moray and Sutherland should have been begotten the wrong side of the blanket was a fact which sorely exercised the minds of the earlier historians of the race, and the maker of the Balbithan MS. sets forward as a cogent argument for the legitimacy of Jock and Thom the fact that the arms of Sir John suffered no brisure for bastardy in the generations which followed him.

Its answered their Legittimacy was owned in so far as Jock and Thom and their posterity to this hour were allowed to bear and keep in their publique Ensigns and Coats of Arms, upon all publick and private occasions, the bare and simple Arms their father and all the Family of Huntly had used from their first arise in Scotland till then; without any addition or alteration, far less any mark of Bastardie; and to be sure the office of heraldrie and giving out Coats of Arms and bestowing other such honours was the King's province the fountain of all honour, who very well knew how to bestow honours on such as were worthy and deserving of them, and if any should take upon them to assume to themselves such Coats of Arms as they deserved not, they were severely handled by authority for their presumption, and if there was any blot in their birth be sure it was insert in their Scutcheon, and there were narrow Inquiry of this taken by the King and others he employed for that purpose.

We have here a curious instance of that faith in the heraldry books so often found in seventeenth century writers, a faith



which certain followers of the heraldic cult would fain revive amongst us. But here if ever we have proof that faith is indeed 'that quality which enables us to believe things which we know to be untrue.' We may pardon the archæology which imagined the medieval king as the deviser and only ordainer of the arms which should figure on the shields and on the seals of the remotest of his gentle subjects, seeing that such archæology has weathered the nineteenth century. But that a Scots gentleman, well learned in the armory of his fellows, should believe that illegitimacy in Scotland left indelible marks upon the shields of misbegotten houses is nothing less than amazing. One may ask whether the author of the Balbithan MS. had ever seen the shield of the earls of Douglas, sprung from Archibald the grim, the bastard offspring of a nameless mother, or the shield of Douglas of Drumlanrig which not only bore the arms of Douglas without a 'blot,' but quartered with it the whole arms of Mar, as though bastardy barred no whit of an armorial inheritance. Even in the shield of the Douglas earls of Angus, a line whose origin was at once illegitimate and incestuous, the pious student of the heraldry folios might search in vain for 'marks of Bastardie.'

The story of Adam Gordon and Elizabeth Cruickshank is no sooner told than the Balbithan MS. takes us a step further to a new scandal which must be arranged before the legitimate chief of Jock's descendants can have his proper precedence. The lairds of Buckie and Pitlurg are provided with matter for argument in the fact that Jock's eldest son Alexander, from whom the house of Buckie descends, although the son of a daughter of Macleod of Harris, was not born in wedlock. In this new dispute the Balbithan author takes the side of Pitlurg, but deplores these 'nice and frivolous intestine debates amongst friends.' The English genealogist is amazed amongst these 'debates' by the absence of any appeal to parchment and paper, Pitlurg being ready to draw upon Buckie with a tradition for all support at his back, and Buckie for his part 'expressing himself very modestly and mannerly' in defence of the honour of his ancestress, being content to wonder 'how Jock in point of good manners could or was safe to get her with child and not marry her.' But the Scottish genealogist who would take his researches into the medieval period is fortunate if he can but light upon ancient tradition.



The present volume contains a bibliography of Gordon genealogy from MSS. and printed works, a copy of the Balbithan MS., histories of the Gordons of Abergeldie, Coclarachie and Gight, and lists of Gordons served as heirs, Gordons who were pollable persons in Aberdeenshire in 1696, Gordons at Scottish universities, Gordons, members of parliament, and Gordons, writers to the signet.

Abergeldie is the senior cadet of Huntly. The lands were gotten by Alexander the first earl for his service against the Douglas, and his second son Sir Alexander held them by a deed of gift from James III. Since that day the lands have descended from father to son or from brother to brother. The estate marches with the royal estate of Balmoral, and King Edward VII is tenant under a lease from the present laird of Abergeldie. The third laird was killed at Pinkie in 1547, and the sixth meddled with a Spanish plot after all Spanish hopes had been scattered with the Armada. The house has bred many soldiers and sailors of distinction and its history in the wars is brought down to the war in South Africa, where more than one of its cadets was in the field.

Abergeldie is of the Seton-Gordons. Coclarachie, the subject of the second treatise, claims descent from Jock Gordon of Scurdargue, the first Gordon of Coclarachie getting lands there by marriage with Elizabeth Winton. The record of this branch may be called a peaceful one, for but one laird of Coclarachie died a violent death, George Gordon who was beheaded at Aberdeen in 1562. For a more stirring history we must go on to the marvellous record of the Gordons of Gight.

Gight in Fyvie is said by philologists to carry the meaning of a windy place, and an east wind seems to blow through all its uneasy history. Sir William Gordon was founder of the house, a son of George, Earl of Huntly, by the lady Annabel of Scotland. He went with his brothers Huntly and Sir Adam to Flodden field, and at the day's end was taken up dead. From his second son James came Colonel John Gordon, who helped slay Wallenstein, and the story of his daughters and their descendants makes a fine background for the deeds of the male line. Barbara Gordon married John Grant of Ballindalloch, who was murdered in 1559 by John Roy Grant of Carron, a left-handed man wearing 'a coat of armour or maillie coat.' A deadly feud was thus briskly begun and

seventy-one years afterward a Grant of Ballindalloch takes satisfaction by killing a Grant of Carron. As this avenging Ballindalloch was a left-handed man and as moreover he was wearing the original maillie coat which had protected his great-grandfather's slayer, Sir Robert Gordon, who tells the story in his *Earls of Sutherland*, sees in the whole tale a handsome instance of God's providence and judgements. Another daughter married James Innes of Rathmakenzie, who was killed at Pinkie, and by him had Alexander Innes of Crombie, whom his kinsman and familiar enemy Innes of Invermarkie drew from his safe lodging at Aberdeen by crying for help in the night and feigning a fit outside his door. A shot and a dozen dirk wounds paid Crombie for his soft-hearted folly.

The second laird of Gight died in his bed, but his 'crewale invasion of William Con of Auchry and hurting and wounding him in divers parts of his body to the great effusion of his blude' shows us that he was not lacking in spirit. The third laird rode with Edom o' Gordon to the burning of the house of Towie, and the avenging Forbeses slew him at the ferry of Dundee. His wife was a bastard daughter of the Cardinal Beaton, who was murdered in 1546. She married Edom o' Gordon's brother, and the battle of Glenlivet made her a widow for the second time. The daughter and heir of this couple wedded with Hume, Earl of Dunbar, whose sudden end was set down to poison.

John Gordon of Adiell, a son of the first laird, succeeded to Gight. In his day began a feud with the Keiths, and John of Gight was at the killings of John Keith of Cryallie and John Keith of Clachriach. The king sought his presence at court for the killing of the 'Earle of Marches kinsman,' but Huntly stood by his kinsman and answered the king stoutly that he himself would come to Edinburgh with Gight 'if hee might bring his frinds and forces with him—otherwise not.' The manner of his death is uncertain, but it seems probable that at the age of eighty and more he fell at the battle of Balrinnies in 1594. Amongst his hopeful brood the old traditions of the house do not suffer. His sons were William, John, Alexander and George. William and John shared in the killing of the bonny Earl of Moray, and the latter was left for dead at Donibristle, his hat, money and weapons being taken away by his thrifty kinsmen. Moray's own mother took him into her house, cherished him with meat and drink,



and saved him alive for the gallows of Edinburgh, where he suffered with his serving man. Alexander was a soldier against the Spaniards, colonel of a Scots regiment in the low countries and governor of Bergen op Zoom. In an evil day he left the comparative security of the Netherlands battle-fields and came home to visit his friends. 'Some evil willers secretlie layd ane ambush' for him and the colonel's military career was at an end. Of George little is known, but that he was killed, and that most probably at Haarlem in Holland. Of the daughters Margaret married Alexander Chalmers of Strichen, whose stepfather her brother slew, and bred a son who was at the killing of the Earl of Moray; whilst Catherine married Keith of Clachriach, whom her brother William murdered, and her son joined her nephew Gordon of Ardlogie in a bloody feud with Leask of Leask.

The Gordons were ever 'the gay Gordons' in ballad and legend. The fifth laird was a Gordon by father and mother, and his career and the career of the sons and grandsons who followed him will serve to illustrate for us the dominant gaiety of his house. Before coming to his lairdship of Gight William Gordon had given his proofs. The killing of William Leslie his kinsman was but a regrettable mishap, Leslie having foolishly thrust himself forward whilst Gordon was attempting the life of Troup of Begshall, but the murder of Thomas Fraser of Strichen, his sister's stepfather, whom Gordon slew with a sword on the bridge of Ugie, was a more straightforward business. His feud with the Keiths was famous and bloody, and endured for ten years' space, and after he had come at last to the lairdship of Gight. In 1597 we have a glimpse of the home life of Gight. A certain James Hog, seeking two mares stolen from him, found the said mares together with a stolen grey horse 'gangand and pasturant,' upon the Gight meadows, and was even so ill advised as to ask for their surrender. At such an outrageous demand the gay Gordons came out of Gight like angry bees, with 'hagbuts, pistolets, jacks, steelbonnets, swords, gauntlets and other weapons' they pursued Hog and his friends, wounding them in divers parts of their bodies. It goes without saying that the laird's instinct for gaiety carried him to the affair of the Earl of Moray, and he is credited with being the man who slew the bonny earl 'among the rocks of the sea' with three pistol bullets in his bowels. It must not be supposed



that the law of Scotland held its peace throughout these doings, for the price of one of the laird's murders was assessed at a fine of five thousand merks Scots, although we have no record of the laird's discharging that moderate penalty. And Gordon of Gight is more than once 'put to the horn,' but with that harmless ceremony which might be safely performed at Edinburgh Cross the law seems to have contented itself. In 1596 the General Assembly of the Kirk orders his arrest, yet in 1597 he is admitted a burghess of Aberdeen, and his ordered life goes on as though the General Assembly were as little regarded in Gight as a distant parliament of rooks.

The Keiths were doubtless a poor spirited race, easily weary with a ten years' feud, and Gight in 1601 began a new feud with the Hays and the Mowats. With George Gordon in Bridgend the laird of Gight in 1601 rode to the lands of Mowat of Balquholie with twenty horsemen armed with hagbuts, pistolets, swords and lances. Mowat's corn was trampled down and his servants wounded. The visit was renewed the next day when no less than three hundred of Gight's friends and wellwishers with spear in hand and steel bonnet on brow rode over and athwart the growing corn of Balquholie.

In September of the same year one Alexander Chalmer, a messenger of court, was so foolhardy as to appear at Gight to 'execute letters' against the laird, who, mazed by his recklessness, allowed him to go away in a whole skin. But those who supped Gight's porridge were more jealous for the house's honour, and Chalmer was pursued and brought back. The laird, who had perhaps misunderstood the nature of the written letters in his hands was now properly roused to a sense of Chalmer's enormity and at first sight of the messenger would have shot him with one of those 'pistolets' which seem at this time to have made the principal part of a Gordon's costume.

He then hurlit him within his hall, tuk the copyis [of the letters] kaist them in a dische of bree [and forced the messenger] to sup and swallow thame, held ane drawne dagger foiranent his hairt, avowing with mony horrible and blasphemous aithis to have thrust the dagger throw his hairt gif he had not suppit he saidis copyis.

The wretched Chalmer—what fee could have tempted him on such an errand?—swallowed the copies 'for feir and

saultie of his life.' Gight was made rebel for that day's work and Huntly his chief was ordered to bring him 'quick or deid' to the king and his council; but rebel, or no rebel, Gordon bides safe at Gight. In the same year the laird led a raid upon Turriff, whither he came with his three sons and many another Gordon, oppressing 'the haill toun' with long guns, spears and pistolets. William Duffus was drawn forth from bed in his sark and fled away for fear of his life, shot at 'with pistolettis, muscattis and hacquebuttis.' A 'muscat,' better aimed than the others, brought him down, and being loaded in generous fashion, lodged nine bullets in divers parts of his body, and his pitiful complaint to the privy council describes him as 'in sic danger of his life as na man knawis quhat hour he shall die.'

After this last wickedness Gight crossed the border and abode for a while beyond the reach of the council's feeble claws, but he was soon at home again and undisturbed by the king's writs, for the good reason that Gight was 'the onley prinsepall man of the Earle of Huntleyes howes,' and of Huntly Sir John Carey writes that 'there is no man living in Scotland with more power to harm his majesty the king.' In his very death Gight was at strokes with the law, for notwithstanding the act against superstitious and popish rites, one George Crawford bore a crucifix upon a spear immediately before the corpse the whole way to the place of burial. The naked spear alone might have made a better symbol before the body of the laird of Gight.

The cadets of the fifth laird were another worthy brood. John of Ardlogie, the second son, was in the Turriff raid and made a name for himself as leader of certain deboshed and lawless limmers calling themselves the 'Societie and Companie of Boyis,' whom zeal for the Romish religion drove about the country side lifting the goods of such neighbours as were in spiritual darkness. Ardlogie raided and was raided by Mowat of Balquholly, made private war on Leask of Kelly, his brother's father-in-law, and was concerned in the murder of Francis Hay. With his brother and his sister's son he raided the lands of Sir William Keith of Balmuir, who being a 'civile obedient and ansuerable subject,' stayed cannily in his house when Ardlogie rode sword in hand up and down his green, provoking him to come forth and shouting his barbarous slogan of 'Up thy hairt, Ardlogie!' When the King of



Denmark raised levies of volunteers in Scotland Ardlogie took 'a charge' in Sinclair of Merkill's regiment and pocketed the Dane's money for taking his men towards Germany. The money was a good gift easily come by, and Ardlogie never saw Germany until in later years, after he had shared in the Huntly Gordons' vengeance on Frendraught, he fled there in peril of his neck, never to see Scotland again. Ardlogie's sons were Adam, John, Nathaniel and George. Adam followed the sixth laird in his raids, and on a visit to Paris was run through the body by a brother Scot whom when 'wery drunk' he was pursuing in the open street. John was in the Frendraught raid, and was the murderer of Sergeant Forsyth of Fotheringham's musketeers. Nathaniel was a cavalier soldier at home and abroad, a Faublas in jackboots whose exploits in love and war are waiting for a chronicler. George Gordon, youngest of the Ardlogie litter, has a reasonable claim to be considered as the George Gordon who attacked two brothers Ferguson on a Sunday in 1622, killing one and cutting the ear from the corpse and following the other to slash away 'ane grite peece of his harne pane.' The fifth laird's third son William was in the Turriff raid and, mayhap, was killed therein. Patrick the fourth son made a fair record. With his brother Adam he warred with Bannerman of Waterton. He raided the Hays and Leask. In 1617 the privy council desired him to leave the country, but we do not hear of him as a traveller. He gave George Thomson, who was riding with the king's warrant in his pocket, 'cruel and deadlie straits' with his pistol butt. For his bastard son William he had chosen a bride, Margaret Cushnie, whose maiden affections were set on Richard Gordon who had earned some local fame by 'the fellown and cruell slaughter of John Johnston.' Patrick Gordon's men came down upon the Cushnies and carried Margaret away on a horse behind a trooper. Margaret escaped to marry Richard, who taken and wounded in an ambush by Gight's men, killed Patrick with his own favourite weapon, the 'pistolett.' The names of two or three of Patrick's sons are preserved in the criminal records of the countryside. Adam, fifth son of Gight, a raider and rider with 'bent hagbut' and drawn sword, fell to the pistol of his comrade Francis Hay of Logie-rieve, who shot him in pique after a friendly brawl with swords. Alexander, the sixth son, gives us a taste of his quality in his visit to the house of Mr. John Mersair, 'a harmless, innocent



minister.' Alexander and his friends broke the doors, slashed the minister's horse with their swords, held cocked pistols in at the windows to shoot him on sight and were firing the house over him when help came up. Robert, the seventh son, was in the Hay and Leask raids and concerned in the hanging of a Frendraught tenant at Strathbogie. From the fifth laird's daughters we choose Elspet for notice. She wedded with James Cheyne of Pennan, and the worthy pair raided together in their neighbours' barns and fowl-houses. One Petrie, who besought Gight's highspirited daughter to 'forbeir such unseamelie forme of doing,' brought her wrath upon himself, for the lady of Pennan 'put violent hand on him and schamefullie and unhonnestlie strak and dang him with her handis *and feit* in sindrie pairtis of his body and left him for deid.'

We come to George Gordon, sixth laird of Gight. Never were the family traditions more safe than in his hands. He thought it a 'cryme unpardonable in the person of any of his rank or within to resset or schaw favour to ony person aganis whome he beiris querrell,' and his life was ordered within the bounds of this simple creed. In 1593 he was denounced as a rebel, and in 1610 he earns from the bishop of Moray a remarkable certificate that he was 'a great funderar and favourer of peace.' The privy council removed in some measure this slur upon the good name of Gight by describing him as 'a most rebellious and disobedient person, who by a concourse of a nombir of odious crymes, made himself in a kynd eminent above offendaris of the heiehest degree.' He was deeply religious, following the creed which would most conflict with the law his enemy, and declaring his profession 'quhilk is Catholick Romane.' His feud with the Hays is remarkable amongst these diversions of the countryside for its fierceness. It will be remembered that Gight's brother Adam had come to his end before Francis Hay's pistol. This Francis Hay was within three days' space carried away by Gight and his following to their lodging at the Bonny Wife's Inn in the Gallowgate of Aberdeen, whence the Gordons had the audacity to issue letters to their kin and friends inviting them to his trial. Many barons and gentlemen in arms answered his summons, and the wretched Hay was condemned in a packed court by the sheriff-deputy of Aberdeen, who was, it goes without saying, a gentleman of the Gordon name. The

doomed man was led out of a back door to 'a hoill betuix tua mottis—quhair they crowned thair tragidie with so butcherly mangling the poore gentilman with sex severall straikes upoun his shoulderis, hind head and neck, as the lyke hes nevir or seldome bene sene or hard.' A raid followed upon the Hays of Brunthill, who had sheltered poor Francis Hay, and in this Gight fell upon and all but slew George Hay who had come out unarmed from his house to parley with the raiders. It is amazing to read that Gight was still beyond the law. Privy council and king strove in vain to bring him and his to justice, but in the end the king was content to make Gight and the Hays 'chop hands' together in a truce which was soon broken.

Gight's next achievement is more domestic in its nature. His wife's mother, the old lady Saltoun, lying at point of death, made a will which was not to his liking. Gight rode at once to meet Patrick Livingstone who had drawn this will, and remonstrated with him in his best manner, 'protesting and avowing with mony horrible aithes that he sould stryk ane daigger to the said Patrickis hairt and that hesould cleive him to the harne pane unles he causit the said testament ather to be nullit or reformat to his contentment.' Out of this matter, Patrick and his brother came hardly with their lives, Gight raging against them like a mad dog, but the lady Saltoun's money was lost to the Gordons. Sir Harry Wood of Bonnyton, Gight's brother-in-law, was the next victim. This blameless man was sitting in the parish kirk of St. Vigean's 'in his awne dask, in a very modest and quyet maner,' when into the kirk rushed Gight with his wolfish clan at his back, 'all bodin in fear of wear, with swords, long dagours, buffell coites, secreitts, plait sleives, steil hattis, with plait stringis, gantelitts' and the like. Sword in hand they rushed up the kirk oversetting the women and children at prayer and took Bonnyton prisoner with shouts of 'Traitour be tane.' Sir Harry was hurried to his own house of Lethem and with dirks at his throat made to sign a bond unread, a bond 'containing diverse gritt soumes of money and uther hard conditions.' Wonderful to relate, this business was brought home to the laird, from whom a small fine was drawn in quittance of the affair.

In 1623 we hear of Gight having swindled 'a poore strangear' a Frenchwoman, a governess and teacher to his daughter, of her fee and charges spent during several years



in bringing up the young lady. In 1631 he attacked Mr. William Murray in the kirk of Monfuthe after sermon time, and in the same year he raised an armed gang to kill John Leith of Harthill. In 1639 he was in the Turriff raid. In 1640 the chapter of Gight's offences is closed. One Captain Betoun took him a prisoner as a papist and outstander against the good cause, and we have here to our wonder the description of this ruffian as 'a seiklie tender man.' In November 1640 'old Geicht' died in ward in Edinburgh, and a captain and thirty-two soldiers rode to Gight and took the surrender of the house. Of the sixth laird's younger sons John rode raiding with his nephew the eighth laird, and Alexander shames his family by having no specific villainy recorded against his name.

George Gordon, the seventh laird of Gight, was 'a young boy' in 1618 when he followed his father in the attack upon Patrick Livingstone, upon whom he 'bent' his pistol with intent to kill. It will be noted that the pistol and the hagbut were weapons which no private man could carry lawfully, but in the house of Gight they were familiar wear from the cradle. His violence had some legitimate outlet in the service of King Charles, for whom he raised and led a troop of horse and company of foot. In 1640 he was taken prisoner in Old Aberdeen, lying in his naked bed, but a Gordon of Gight was slippery to hold and tricking his mounted captors he fled away from them by his own speed of foot and went over sea to Germany, where he must have had many pleasant tales of the home life of Gight to tell to his kinsman Colonel John Gordon, the assassin of Wallenstein. In 1642 King Charles gave him a passport and letter of recommendation, which letters style Gight 'this excellent man.' He was home again in 1643 and in 1644 took free quarters in Banff, carrying away with him the money in the possession of the collectors of taxes. The same year saw his house of Gight surrendered to the Covenanters and he himself taken prisoner to Aberdeen, where he broke prison. About 1648 he died.

His son George, the eighth laird, made a stout attempt to rob his own father of his lands, whilst the father was wandering abroad in Germany. In 1644 he led a band of cavaliers to Montrose, where they took the provost prisoner and made great plunder, but a few days after old Gight the father had plundered Banff. When the father surrendered his house in



the May of 1644, young Gight leapt the park dykes on horse-back and got safely away. In 1645 he was wounded at Alford.

The good old days of rugging and reiving pass away at last, and we have a ninth laird of Gight, of whom we can but say that he was a Commissioner of Supply. His only child, a daughter Mary, married Alexander Davidson, younger of Newton, of a family of advocates in Aberdeen. Alexander, fourth son of the marriage, became Alexander Gordon of Gight. He was drowned in the river Ythan whilst taking, amongst the melted snow on a January day, a bath which Mr. Bulloch would qualify as suicide. We are not concerned to defend the family honour of these degenerate Davidson lairds, but the obituary notice which described Gight as 'an honest, inoffensive gentleman' could hardly have recommended him to the shades of his mother's forefathers. With his son George the male line is again broken. This George was a melancholy creature, and of his drowning himself in the Bath canal there seems little doubt. His eldest daughter succeeded to Gight. A 'stout, dumpy, coarse looking woman,' the Aberdeenshire heiress figured at Bath, and met and, to her sorrow, married the Honourable John Byron, a handsome bankrupt. Gight was sold in 1787, and its hernes flew over to Haddo, that the prophecy of Thomas the Rymmer might be fulfilled. The last lady of Gight died alone at Newstead in 1811 in a fit of rage over an upholsterer's bill, and her son the poet, who had vilified her in her life, mourned her in death with the mourning of an ingrained *poseur*.

It is possible that this record of this house of Gight may furnish pleasant material for the maker of romances. In skilled hands the savagery of the story might be softened to reckless adventure, but to the historian who must not pick and choose it is a chronicle of unrelieved brutality. A laird of Gight falls at Flodden for his country, and more than one Gordon of this house finds a plunderer's life under the banner of King Charles his best refuge from the Covenanters who have no love for the Gordons. Yet, when all is told, these Gordons of Gight are men without a fatherland, the enemies of their countrymen, of their neighbours, and of their kinsfolk. They are thieves without acquiring the honour of thieves. In their rustic wars they fall in force upon lonely men, upon unarmed men, upon women and children. Of fair fight we hear little, but much of assassination and cowardly waylaying.

They defy king and council, but king and council are weak, and Huntly and a confederation of rogues in rusty plates are at hand to back their impudent defiance.

Her remote descent from such ancestors as these moved poor provincial Mrs. Byron to furious boasting and contemning of the southern nobility. But although there should be something of sadness in the end of an old line, and the sale of its rooftree, we feel little of it in reading the story of Gight. That the headship of such a race should be carried by a lass to the dismal Davidsons and that Gordon of Gight should end with a tawdry scold is but a seemly reaction from the blood and dirt of the earlier history.

O. B.

## SKOAL TO THE NORSEMAN !

**I**N every craft the style is the man. The genealogist must acknowledge it equally with those who practise the sister arts of romance writing and public advertisement. As Gilbert Clay, the headsman, explained to Annie Protheroe in a certain Bab Ballad, 'famous operators vary very much in touch.' A clean review-copy of a genealogical study singular in its novelty of treatment sets us recalling the accredited styles which most obtain.

It is our deliberate belief that the grand *staccato* manner of the school of Leipsic, as shown in the *Almanach de Gotha*, alone maintains the nobility of the continent in its privileges. On the day when Herr Justus Perthes adopts a more colloquial style, on that day we are persuaded that Herren Bebel and Liebknecht will break into the spence and turn adrift the mediatized principedoms and the countships entitled to the addition of *erlaucht*. The *Almanach de Gotha* is the imperial Tokay of the peerage books, and old Tokay, unlike Mr. Swiveller's beer, may be tasted in sips—

### DUDELSACKPFEIFERSHAUSEN.

Réformés—château de Hohenpfeifersheim près Hamelin—Ancienne maison féodale dont Petrus Pfeifer, châtelain de Schloss Pfefferkorn, vers 890 est cité comme aïeul. La filiation remonte à Peter Pfeifer von Hamelin, dit *Struwo-welpeter*. Acquisition des seigneuries de Dudelsackpfeifershausen et de Hohenpfeifersheim vers 1561. Reichsgraf, Vienne 5 févr. 1705. . . .

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But we check ourselves in time. There is probably such an offence as *Almanachsbeleidigung*, and the penalty cannot be less than two years in a fortress with deprivation of civil rights. We are safer in imitating the franker manner of our old-fashioned English peerage. The wholly imaginary earldom of Cookmaydensfield may be selected for an example of this manner. With plentiful models before us we should begin our tale in this wise—

### COOK, EARL OF COOKMAYDENSFIELD.

The founder of the illustrious house of Cook of Cookmaydensfield, SIR HILDEBRANDUS DE COQCIGRUE, accompanied William the Conqueror in his memorable invasion of England. He was a knight of gigantic stature, and famous for his strategy and knowledge of the military arts. The Bayeux



tapestry contains a figure of him in the act of persuading Duke William at Bayeux that unmounted men would be preferable for the expedition. He built the castle of Lamprey pool in Gloucestershire. From the Conqueror he received no less than four hundred manors in the county of Rutland as appears by Domesday Book, a record which eulogizes his military qualities. It appears by a MS. genealogy under the hand of Gregory King, Lancaster Herald, that he married an Anglo-Saxon lady of high birth, GODIVA, relict of LEOFRIC, EARL OF MERCA. Holding his lands by the tenure of presenting the king yearly with a dish of stewed lampreys he fulfilled his office in 1135, when the king, before dying of indigestion, is related by Ingulphus to have hastily expressed the hope that his father's faithful servant might be boiled, a wish which four knights in attendance upon the king at once carried out. His monument, which remained in the nave of Westminster Abbey until its restoration by Sir Gilbert Scott, represented him in full armour with a turnspit at his feet. The mailed thumb of the right gauntlet pressed against the nose of the effigy symbolizes his reluctance to join the first crusade. From him descended in an unbroken line—

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From such a gallant opening our old-fashioned peerage book carries us towards the peer of Queen Anne's creation, whose eminence and honours, whose progress in the favour of his sovereign and the esteem of his fellow countrymen, are touched in for us with broad brush strokes.

The *Complete Peerage* under COOKMAYDENFIELD may be consulted for an example of another and more modern method, wherein a rill of concise statement flows above a savoury sediment of notes, after the literary manner of M. Pierre Bayle, as employed in his great Dictionary. For the distinguished author of the *Complete Peerage* Hildebrandus and his immediate descendants are shadows who have no place in his scheme of peerage-making, save perhaps for passing reference in one of those notes whose piquancy goes far to explain the high price with which the *Complete Peerage* is honoured in booksellers' catalogues. The *Complete Peerage* concerns itself only with peers, and the house of Cookmaydensfield would probably find itself commemorated something after the following fashion :—

#### COOKMAYDENFIELD.

Earldom I. 1. Jonas Cook, 4<sup>s</sup> of Accepted Cook, an empirical physician of some notoriety,<sup>1</sup> and a leader of the Fifth Monarchy men, by Jane,<sup>2</sup> d. of — Potkin, was b. 29 May 1670 in Crutched Friars.<sup>3</sup> He was a Levant merchant and amassed a large sum by a project for carrying Welsh coal by sea to Newcastle. M.P. for Old

Sarum 1701, and for Bramber 1703-5. He was Deputy Paymaster General to the forces 1736-42.<sup>4</sup> He was cr. 12 Jan. 1704.<sup>5</sup> Earl of Cookmaydensfield in Berkshire and Viscount Cook of Lampreypool.<sup>6</sup> He m. 19 Sep. 1702 Jane, eld. d. and coh. of Geoffrey Penwyse, fifteenth earl of Poundfullish. She also was b. 1681, d. in Curzon St., Mayfair, 3 May 1770. He d. 1 April 1753 and was b. at Cookmaydensfield 3 April (M.I.).

<sup>1</sup> See Hearne's *Collectanea*, iii. 46, for his description as a strolling quack-salver. He is there said to have risen in the world by his prescribing for a poodle of Lady Castlemaines.

<sup>2</sup> For an account of her intrigue with Samuel Pepys, who took her with her husband to dinner at the Cherry Garden, see the *Diary* (Wheatley's edition), ix. 22, 23, 146.

<sup>3</sup> The legitimacy of his birth has been questioned (*Genealogist*, new ser. iii. 41).

<sup>4</sup> At this time his portrait was painted by Kent in the character of Moses, as an altarpiece for his private chapel at Cookmaydensfield. The picture is commemorated by Dean Swift :—

See Cook, who with one greasy paw  
Thumbs the two tables of the Law,  
Whilst t'other bilks the Eighth Commandment  
Of sixpence for the soldier's hand meant.

<sup>5</sup> 'Such were the times, such were the occasions, which saw a minister of the crown a suppliant and purchaser of the favour of a corrupt and shameless office-bearer' (Macaulay, *Essays*, i. 29).

<sup>6</sup> For an account of the forgery by Gregory King, Lancaster Herald, of his pedigree from the extinct family of Coqcigrue of Lampreypool, see J. H. Round's *Peerage Studies*, pp. 476-7.

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For the genealogy of a private family treated in the hardy Norse manner we have before us Major Latham C. M. Blacker's history of his family, the Blackers of Carrickblacker. Mere records trace that family to a sufficiently respectable origin. A Captain Valentine Blacker, an Englishman as may be guessed, but hitherto of unknown parentage, purchased in 1660 the manor of Carrowbrack, since called Carrick Blacker, which manor appears to be still in his descendants' hands. Three of these Blackers were sheriffs of their county of Armagh, and many more of them have served in India and elsewhere with credit to their stock.

At that sprouting time of ancestral legends, the early Victorian age, the family of Blacker became dissatisfied with



their respectable pedigree from Captain Valentine. Such monstrous growths as the pedigree of Coulthart the banker from Coulthartus the lieutenant of Agricola made the squires and squireens uneasy in their shadow. A coat of arms of an English family of Blacker had been used by them, after the custom of Irish families with English names, a shield derived, no doubt, as such bearings usually were and are derived, from some Alphabet of Arms, and of its origin they had been incurious. But the appetite for family legend took them, and there were those at hand to satisfy it.

The new pedigree of Blacker could not match with that of Coulthart, from which it differs even as the sketch of 'Crest and Motto' provided by the heraldic stationer for three half-crowns, differs from the coloured painting of arms, crest, helmet and motto illuminated on parchment and handsomely framed for thirty-two and six. The Blacker of that day was either more grudging or more cautious than Mr. Coulthart. We have no long line of Blackers, chiefs of their name and house, perishing lavishly on fields of renown, the props of kings, the builders of minsters.

But in boldness of motive the rough sketch of their ancestry afforded the Blackers yields nothing to Mr. Coulthart's emblazoned scroll. Without pettily niggling inquiries into the birth and parentage of the patriarch Valentine, the genealogist's arm plunged deep into history and brought up out of Clio's lucky bag an ancestor to satisfy the most exacting.

Blacker being a surname deriving itself as a rule from a humble calling, that of the bleacher, and no one of the several English families of that name having come to any celebrity, the search for a great housefather on the English side was an unprofitable one, but the records of Ireland herself yielded BLACAIRE, the son of Godfrey, one of the Norse rulers of Dublin in the tenth century. Little is known of Blacaire, but that little has the local colour of his period. He smote Muirheartach, a wild Irish chieftain, with the sword, and by the sword of another breechless hero he perished in A.D. 946, at the battle of Ath Cliath. He left a son Sihtric, of whom nothing more is known.

To the clear sight of the genealogist of the bold eighteenth-thirties the truth was no longer hidden. That Blacaire the illustrious was direct ancestor and founder of the squires of Carrick Blacker needed no more demonstration, and the



Ulster or Garter seems to have commemorated the discovery of Blacaire by granting a shield of arms which should be worthy of his line—a remarkable composition which we will endeavour to describe in the sacred language of the heralds as ‘In a field *argent* gutté de sang (from which the Irish host has prudently withdrawn) Blacaire himself victorious and *proper* with an axe in one hand and a sword in the other.’

From Blacaire the narrative of the pedigree of 1836 proceeded with a leap to Captain Valentine Blacker, who died in 1677, the intermediate descents being proved by the fact that Blacaire’s name is sometimes written Blaccard, whilst the patronymic of the Carrick Blacker family was ‘still pronounced frequently by the lower classes Blackard,’ a pronunciation which, having the elements of disrespect within it, we hope has not survived the thirties.

The whole pedigree of 1836 is reprinted for us by Major Latham Blacker, whose family has seen the record of Blacaire and his deeds shouldered out of genealogical annuals by the number of landed gents with a pedigree for printing. ‘These pedigrees,’ as Major Blacker remarks in his scornful Norse manner, ‘of interest, no doubt, to their possessors, possess no interest whatever to the general reader or student of archæological research.’ Certainly no general reader worthy of the name would pass by the story of Blacaire, and the student of archæological research will be grateful to Major Blacker for carrying this pedigree, fragile and characteristic of 1836 as wax fruit under glass, safely into the twentieth century.

Pretty it is to see Major Blacker carry modern research and method to the support of his venerable pedigree. His method should be carefully noted by those who suspect Norse blood in their own veins. The Saxon method we all know, thanks to Mr. Rye and others, who have given away so many of the secrets of genealogy. In this case it would indicate a diligent search amongst English wills and parish registers for the birth and parentage of Captain Valentine Blacker, but it is not in this grovelling spirit that Major Blacker takes the field. A flight as of the Norse war-raven takes him straight to the feet of his royal ancestor, and from him we begin our saga to this inspiring tune.

The history of this family is interwoven with Norse, English, and Irish records to a remarkable extent.

The name is derived from Blacaire, son of Godfred, son of Ivar (or Imhar),

son of Regnar Lodbrog, King of Denmark, who was descended from Odin, King of Asgardia, *circa* 76 B.C., descendant of Eric, King of Scandania, *circa* 2000 B.C.

The Four Masters, it is true, make Godfrey grandson and not son of Ivar Beinlaus, but their information can hardly be received with the same credit as a statement from a member of the family, and for several pages of Major Blacker's work we enjoy ourselves with Olaf of the Sandale, with Olaf son of Godfrey, with Sitric Caech and Sitric Mac BLACAIRE.

But Valentine Blacker, who died in 1677, a date which we mention almost apologetically as we meet it on our return journey from Eric, King of Scandinavia, *circa* 2000 B.C., came to Ireland from England, so that sooner or later we must find a descendant of BLACAIRE who will cross the sea and beget the English branch. We are left unhampered in our arrangements by the fact that Sitric, the only known child of BLACAIRE, disappears from all records. Here the Saxon genealogist would be hopelessly at fault, and foolishly anxious about the fate of Sitric. But this very disappearance from earth, or from the annals of the Four Masters at the least, encourages Major Blacker's confidence.

It is in the Norse spirit, as we have said, that he approaches his task. Where the Saxon would grope for records with dates and facts the Norns whisper to Major Blacker the road which Sitric has taken over the swan's path, and the Vala murmurs in his ear, 'Try Domesday!'

What inference are we to draw from the disappearance of Sitric? We hazard that he lies in a bog with an Irish skene in him, but Major Blacker has the right answer—

The inference is that he migrated to Yorkshire.

Of ourselves we should never have divined it, but once it is pointed out to us we feel we are on the right track, for Sitric's uncle Olaf had been in the defeat of the Danes at Brunanburh, which alone would make Yorkshire seem a second home to his family.

Some hundred and forty years roll by with no news of Sitric or his descendants, and we come to the year of the compilation of Domesday Book, a work which contains in Major Blacker's opinion 'a very valuable mine of information.'

More than that, it contains Blacaire.



Major Blacker has him safe enough, although the entries are difficult to understand, and in considering the specimen entry as printed for us our respect for the Domesday labours of Mr. Horace Round is notably increased.

In Torp. 7. Iretune hbr. Carle 7 Blacre iiij car. tre. 7 dim. ad Gld. ubi. pots. ee ii car. ne ut Wills 7 waste e TRF ual XVI sol. in XVI dim.

‘The portion relating to Yorkshire,’ says Major Blacker, ‘has unfortunately not yet been translated; but the sense of the above extract is that one Carle Blacre held four hides of land; the sign which looks like a seven is not one, but a sort of mark between the paragraphs.’

The sign ‘which looks like a seven’ is generally interpreted as signifying *et* or ‘and,’ but as this theory would rob us of Carle Blacre and give us Carle and Blacre, both surnameless, we hasten to disavow it and pass on to the entries under Atune, which give by Major Blacker’s method a brother to Carle Blacre, who shall be called Blacre Ghilander or Ghilander Blacre, and those under Snechintune, which give us plain Blacre for a third member of the house. It is a recognisable characteristic of ancient families, such as the Coultharts and the Blackers, that family surnames derived from the name of their heroic patriarch are invariably adopted by them some centuries before the rest of the countrymen recognize the convenience of the system. Had he followed the usage of his fellows, Sitric Mac Blacaire’s son would have styled himself in his turn Mac Sitric, by which means the memory of Blacaire might have been lost. That he followed more modern customs is shown by our discoveries of his Yorkshire descendants, each with the family surname in his possession.

Concerning the Atune and Snechintune Blacres:—

Here again we find the name transformed, no doubt, by the Norman scribe, to whom the spelling of the old Norse names must have been a puzzle; *but still to the experienced antiquarian it is quite enough to establish the link with the Blacaire whose elder brother, Anlaff, made his peace with Edmund after the death of Athelstane, and was baptized in 940 and granted Northumbria.*

The italics and the admiration are ours. Breathless as we may be with following the Norse method of estimating evidence, the next leap clears even a wider gap.

‘To go further we must turn to the parish of Great Sandal near Wakefield.’ We take our orders and turn without ques-



tioning or reasoning why. The Norse method affects us like this.

To Sandal Castle, which Major Blacker suggests may have been named after Olaf of the Sandal, Blacaire's cousin, we have turned, and to the *Testamenta Eboraciensa* (as Major Blacker will have it) of the Surtees Society. Here we have Blackers at will, a John in 1404, a Thomas in 1460, and another Thomas in 1499, with his children Richard and John. Their direct descent from 'Carle Blacre' of 1086 seems to need no proofs. That they in their turn are ancestors of Valentine Blacker, who was in Armagh under Charles II., is proved to the hilt by the facts that Canon Blacker has an ancient carved box with the date 1441 and letters which seem like J, or T.B., and that Dom Joan de Castro, in a letter of 1598 to the Earl of Essex, says that he sends it by the hands of 'an Englishman called Blacar.'

This spelling of 'Blacar,' although by a Portuguese, encouraged Major Blacker to a happy explanation of the reason why his own family have relinquished the spelling of the Four Masters. The reason is that—

Cromwell, after the settlement of Ireland, ordered that all Irishmen should take the name of a colour, such as grey, white, etc., or the name of a place. Valentine, to conform with this law, must simply have changed one or two letters; and Dom Joan's 'Englishman,' not having come to Ireland, thus escaped the rule.

But Cromwell's laws were for the wild Irish, the surnames of English settlers were not to be tampered with, and we cannot help guessing that Dom Joan's Englishman probably escaped this 'curse of Cromwell,' not so much by refraining from a visit to Ireland as by belonging to an earlier generation. Major Blacker, it is true, places the date of this Elizabethan letter at 1698 and not 1598, but this is the mere indifference of a Viking to the chronology of Saxon shopkeepers.

A chart pedigree from 'Eric, 2000 B.C., King of Scandinavia, temp. Serug temp. Abraham!' follows Major Blacker's remarkable work, so that we are enabled to give our readers some idea of the Scandinavian system for the recording of pedigrees.

‘Let no one deem,’ said the late Professor Freeman, ‘that, because a false pedigree is a thing to be eschewed and scouted, therefore a true pedigree is a thing to be despised. A true pedigree, be it long or short, is a fact.’

Major Blacker's pedigree is certainly a long one, the longest we have been privileged to examine. To Major Blacker, who tells his tale with a transparent honesty not to be mistaken, it is also a fact. We raise the mead horn, and cry respectfully, 'Skoal to the Viking!'

OSWALD BARRON.



## FIFTEENTH CENTURY COSTUME

**T**HE lack of English paintings and illuminations of the latter half of the fifteenth century makes us fall back for pictures of costume upon the foreign work nearest to our coasts. Next to work by English hands we could have nothing better than the superb chronicle books made for Edward IV. by Flemish hands about 1480, and bearing his arms and white rose badge in the margins. From one of these we draw our illustrations which deal with the history of the reign of Richard II. of England.

In an earlier article we spoke of the curious simplicity of the costume of the thirteenth century. In the pictures from Matthew Paris's lives of the two Offas, we see but few forms of dress and arms. But here in the fifteenth century the dominant note is diversity of form and colour to the point of bewilderment. The hats alone can hardly be reckoned—round, sugar-loaf, foolscap, with every variety of turned-up edge, high and low, plain and nicked, or cut into fantastic horns and curves.

Three forms of upper garment may be differentiated, many examples illustrating each. We have the long gown which in one form or another goes down the ages and survives to-day in the gowns of aldermen and the like. This gown is for the most part cut with loose sleeves and wide wristbands, and high or pleated shoulders. The back is carefully pleated, and the waist has a narrow girdle, the belt having ceased to make part of the splendour of dress. We have a short gown or coat to the knee or below. This garment follows the lines of the longer one, but it is worn without a girdle. The short coat to the fork of the leg is girdled like the gown in order to persuade the shallow skirt to stand out smartly from the waist.

The sleeves of all these forms often end below the shoulder, which takes a puffed shape, with fur at the edge of the dwarf sleeve or else a slittered fringe. In these cases an under sleeve appears from below and continues to the wrist, and a false sleeve sometimes hangs loose from below the shoulder. We have an example of a great dagged sleeve from the elbow

which recalls the still larger sleeves of the later fourteenth century. All these garments are shown edged at collar, wrist and hem with ermine and sable and other furs. A very graceful riding-cloak appears, hanging before and behind and open at the sides. It reaches generally to the knee, but an example is shown where the same type of cloak hangs to the ground. In this case the sides are fastened together at the waist. The short furred cloak is emblazoned with arms in one case, but all armorial matters must be carefully considered before these pictures, which represent them so ill, be taken as an authority.

The King of France, sitting up on his death-bed in a linen shirt, marks perhaps the beginning of the end of the medieval habit of lying naked between the sheets.

The shapes of armour are yet more varied. We see the full suit of plate taking the advanced form of the mid-fifteenth century in the picture of the death of the lord of Lagurant, where the tonlets, tuilles and mail skirt might serve for a knight of the first quarter of the sixteenth century, but other examples with tuilles are rare. The toes are pointed in armour and civil dress, in shoes and long boots. The pauldrons are very characteristic, following in many cases the civil dress, and appearing as round shell-like whorls with strap fringes hanging from their edge over the upper arms. Large plate pauldrons of the Henry VII. fashion are also found. The knee-cops and elbow-cops are much articulated, and the lesson of a century of much hard fighting seems to show itself in a desire to move the body easily and limberly in action. For this reason the brigandine jacket is much affected by knights as by archers. Comparatively few figures are seen in steel cap-à-pie, the defences being hidden by velvet and coloured cloths with gilt studs and rivets. The legs are often unprotected in the case of men otherwise fully armed.

The helms and headpieces are many. A few knights charge in the close helm, but the sallet with a vizor, and with or without a chin-piece, is the horseman's chief wear. The kettle-hat is found, and the archers are for the most part in round skull caps with large roundels over the ears. These roundels also appear at the cheeks of some of the sallets. With this headgear the old camail or the mail hood is generally worn.

The rich dress and handsome equipment of the archer will be remarked as a commentary upon our new knowledge that the 'gentleman' was not to be found of necessity amongst

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the fully armed men. Besides their bows the archers carry short swords or broad falchions.

Men's hair is worn long, and when the beard is worn the lips are shaven.

Armorial shields are carried by some of the knights in the skirmish outside Chierebourg, but coats of arms are rare. The Earl of Buckingham wears one, and one of the princes at Duguesclin's death-bed has a furred mantle with the arms of France. The helms have no crests, unless some little feathers and pennons at certain helm-tops may be taken for them.

OSWALD BARRON.



## I

The little King Richard II. is here found seated upon a dais under a canopy. He is crowned, but wears none of the robes which are put upon a king at his crowning. The scene, too, is not in a church, but in a hall. The king is clad in a blue gown furred with a brown fur. The great lord upon his right hand, who is probably one of his uncles, wears the ermine tippet commonly given to kings and princes in pictures of this period. His other supporter, who holds an arrow in his hand, wears a hat of estate turned up with ermine, and another ermine tippet is seen in the background. The long gown with loose sleeves is well seen upon the lord addressing himself to the king, a figure behind him showing the pleats of its back. The lord immediately behind the speaker has a short coat of green, red hose and black boots, with a black and gold hat turned up with white. Amongst the headgear will be noted the blue hat with a full white turban.

Of the churchmen we may signalize the deacon in a blue tunic, holding what would appear to be a reliquary. His alb is plain green, sleeves and skirt. It may be that no colours are trustworthy in these brightly painted scenes, but it is to be pointed out that albs of green and other colours are named in inventories of Peterborough and Canterbury, although these colours have been held to apply to the apparels only. The priest in the corner is gaily dressed in a blue gown with edges of white, which probably stand for white fur. The long liripipe about his neck is mauve-purple, and a black collar of an under garment with a white one below it give a curious suggestion of the modern clerical collar. At his girdle hang a purse, a penner and an inkhorn.









## II

Messire Guillaume des Bordes sets out from Montbourc to ride towards Chierebourg with men at arms, archers, arblasters and footmen to fight with Sir John of Harleston. Sir John and his men having set out on the like errand, they meet half way. The English have the better of the skirmish, and Guillaume des Bordes is taken by a Hainault squire named Guillaume de Beaulieu 'appert homme darmes q<sup>i</sup> long temps avoit este anglois.'

Messire Guillaume, whom we see led away on foot, wears a short-sleeved tabard of mauve-purple over his plates and a gilt sallet with a vizor. A coat of like shape is worn by the knight on the white horse towards whom he is led. He who has des Bordes by the left arm is in gilded armour. The other captor has a brigandine jacket of blue, reinforced with plates, the slittered ends of the blue jacket being seen below the tonlets. Of the mounted knights four or five are seen in the great helm of the period, and one of these turning towards us shows the sights defended by small bars, most of the others wearing sallets with vizors. Shields of arms are carried, a knight of the Montbourc party bearing three hammers. The fully-armed man in the front rank of the French is thrusting with a short bill which has below the blade a vamplate or burr to protect the hands. The swordsman striking at him is armed to the thigh, below which we see his red hosen.

The tall English archer gives us a fine figure of a bowman. He wears no visible armour, though a brigandine is probably concealed. His blue sleeveless coat has a narrow girdle which carries his arrows, and a knotted scarf upon the hips. He has brown hose with red shoes, and the sleeves of his under garment are purple. He wears a vizored sallet, whilst all the French archers have iron skull caps with roundels over the ears.










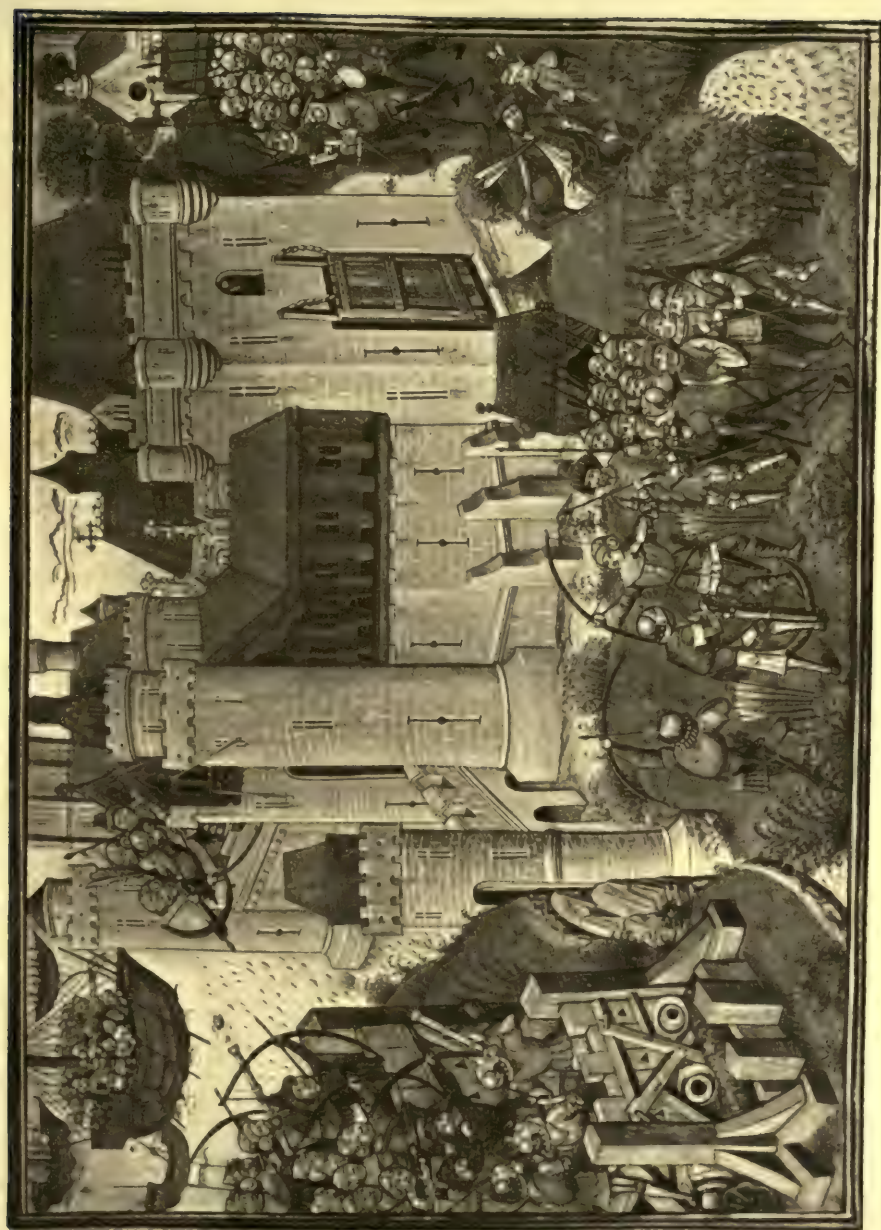
## III

 This picture is of the siege of the castle of Mortaigne in Poitou, which Yvain of Wales, a great enemy of the English, made by order of the Duke of Anjou. The castle, which was held by Messire le Soudic de Lestrade, was not to be taken by assault, so the attackers have 'built their siege' against it, with bulwarks of wood, battled and pierced for cannon.

On the right we have the death of Yvain of Wales by treachery. A squire who was hardly a gentleman, for a gentleman, says the chronicler, would not have done such a deed, came to him from the marches of Wales and gave him news in his own Welsh tongue. Now Yvain was wont to go out from the camp and sit upon the ground in a certain place to comb and braid his hair, and thus one morning he bade the Welsh squire Jacques Laube to bring him his comb. Seeing that Yvain was alone and unarmed, this evil squire went quickly and for a comb brought 'a little short Spanish dart,' with which he struck Yvain through the body, afterwards escaping to the castle. That he came safely away is shown by the English record of a payment made to him for his treachery.

On the left the siegers are firing upon the castle with cross-bows and long-bows and hand-guns of the simplest form. In the foreground the longbowman is seen with his shafts stuck in the ground by his knee, by means of which he could shoot one after another in great haste. Beside him the crossbowman is winding up his arblast.





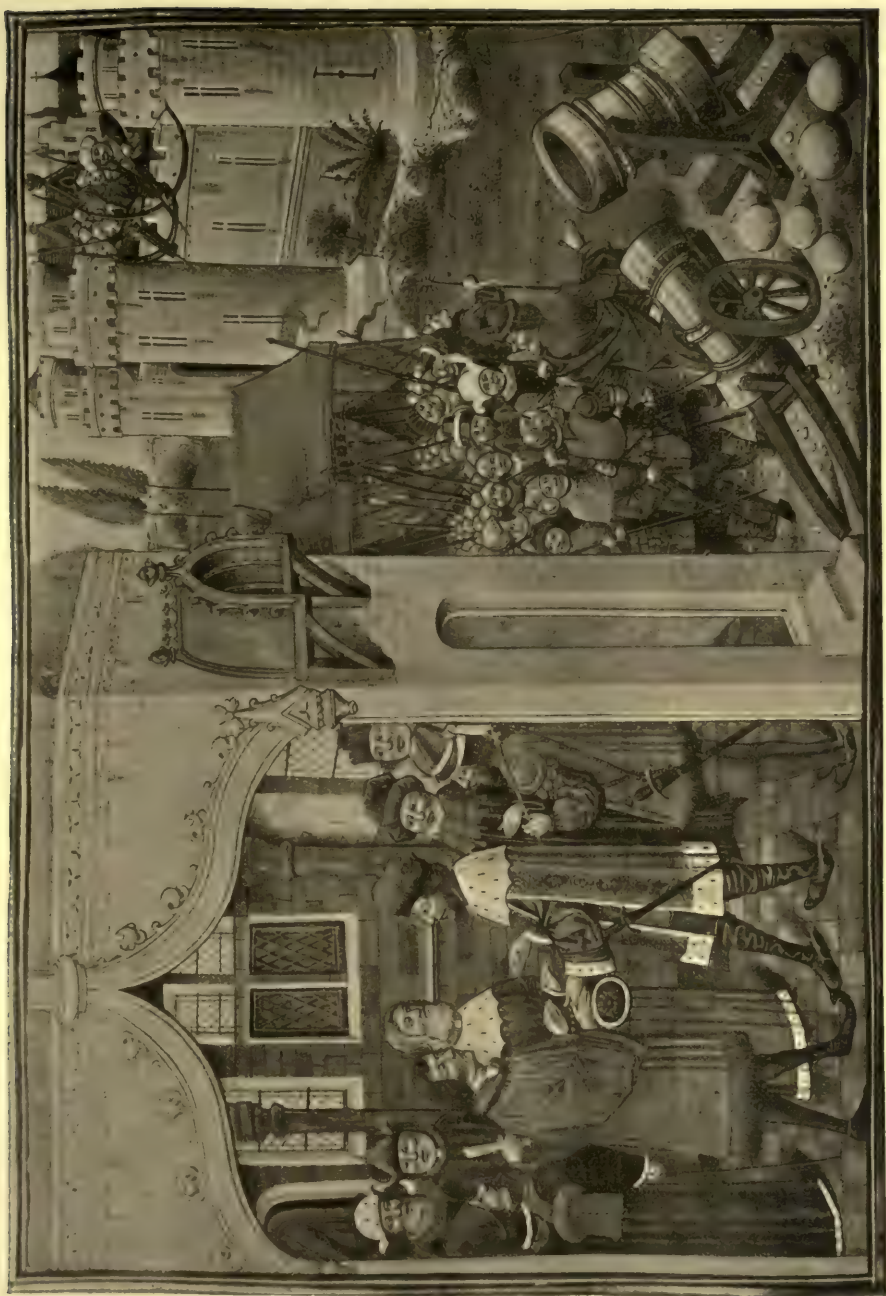






## IV

We have here the King of Navarre as he came to Bordeaux. He wears a small crown in his hat and an ermine tippet, with an engrailed edge over his short and tabard-shaped riding cloak, which is bordered with ermine. The loose sleeves of his under garment are also edged with ermine. His black boots are long and of soft leather, the heels having very long spurs with rowels. On one of those receiving him we see a good example of the turban hat thrown over the shoulder at the end of its liripipe. The gentleman behind the king must be his serjeant, although he carries a short sceptre-like rod in place of a mace. The siege gives us two remarkable pictures of cannon or bombards, the one upon a fixed stand, the other upon a carriage.









## V

This knightly adventure under the walls of a town shows the manner of the death of the lord of Lagurant.

Lagurant had ridden out to Cavillac, which had an English garrison, leaving horsemen in an ambush whilst he challenged Bernard Courant, the captain, to a course with lances. The horse of Lagurant fell, and Bernard, who was a good and strong squire, took his basinet with both hands, so that he drew it off his head. Then Bernard drew his dagger, saying, 'Render yourself my prisoner, rescue or no rescue, or you are dead.' Lagurant heard his men ride out and said no word, therefore Bernard struck him with his dagger in the head and rode off to the gates, leaving Lagurant wounded to death.

The horse of Bernard has full trappers of a steel colour flowered with gold. Both horses have crinets of articulated steel, whilst that of Bernard has the chanfrein as well. The saddle out of which Lagurant has been drawn shows how the knight charged locked in his seat. The armour is all of plain steel. Lagurant's mail skirt with tonlets and 'tuilles' is of the fashion which continued into the sixteenth century. The pauldrons wrought into a whirled pattern with a square edged fringe covering their juncture with the upper plates of the arms are very characteristic of the period.







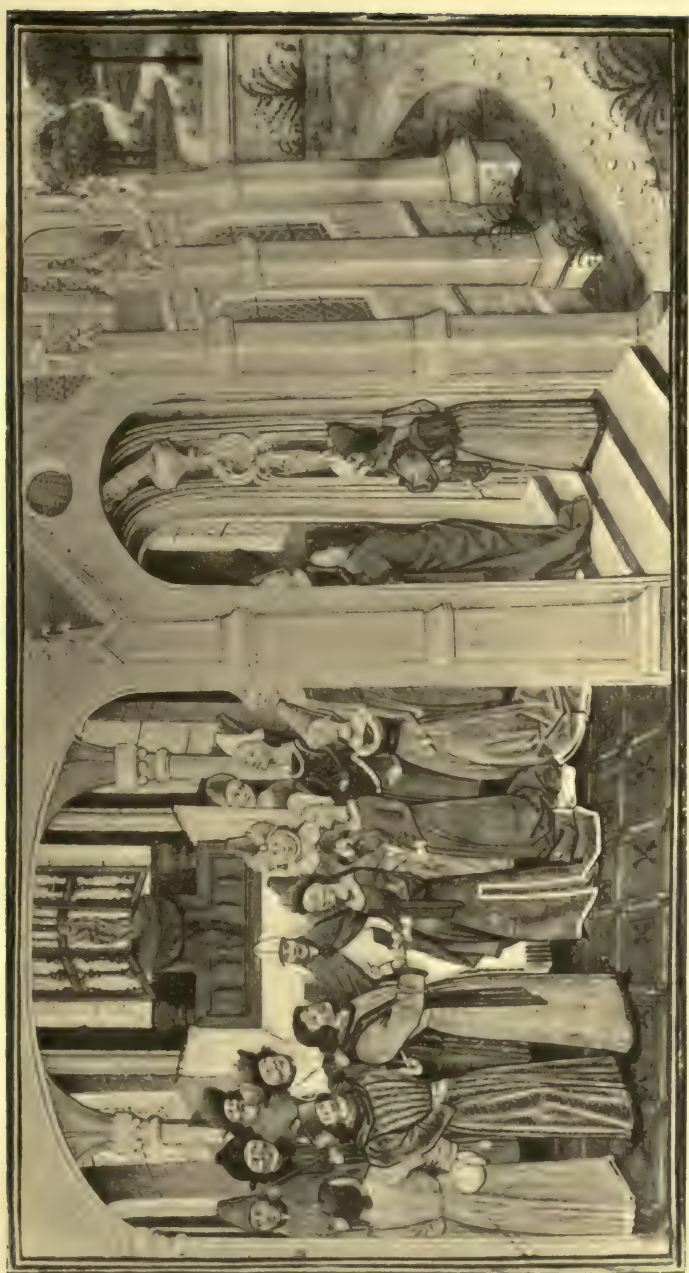


## VI

This wedding is that of the young count Walleran de Saint Pol with the fairest lady in England, the lady Maude of Holland, daughter of the king's mother.

The count's wedding gown is blue, edged with fur, the liripipe over his shoulder being black. His bride's tall hat is turned up with fur. Her gown, slit at the sides from foot to mid thigh, has a long train and sleeves falling from below the shoulder. One of her ladies wears a good example of the steeple head-dress. The men's gowns are clearly shown, gathered in small pleats down the back, the sleeves very full and high at the shoulder, where they are slightly pleated.











## VII

Here Messire Bertran de Claiquin [du Guesclin] sets siege to Neufchastel de Randon, and here he dies, which was a great advantage to his enemies and a great ill to the kingdom of France.

In the foreground we have a great siege cannon upon a wheeled carriage, a carriage which exactly resembles the Flemish wheelbarrow of our own time. It is guarded by two billmen carrying pavesses.

Messire Bertran lies dying stark naked after the bed fashion of his day, but wearing a white night-cap. One of the princes near him wears the tabard-like horseman's cloak with an ermine tippet. Here the cloak is of blue with the arms of France. A longer form of this graceful cloak is worn by the mounted knight.









## VIII

Here the Earl of Bouquinghem [Buckingham], the king's uncle, goes to sea to bring help to the Duke of Bretagne.

In the chamber scene we have most interesting examples of civil dress. The variety of headgear at this time is shown by the fact that each of the five hats differs from the others. The gown and coat are of three lengths. The long gown has been illustrated by the earlier pictures, and it is enough to call attention to the sleeves of it, which in one case resemble the falling sleeves of the bride (in No. VI.). The coat to the knee or below it has plain sleeves, loose at the wrist in one instance and gathered tight in the other. The bearded gallant in the foreground has a coat to the fork of the leg, gathered at the back after the fashion of the long gown. His coat is blue with a dagged red border below the shoulder, from which hang long sleeves, sweeping from the elbow to a foot of the ground, of green stuff with elaborate daggings which recall the long sleeves actually worn in that reign of Richard II. which these pictures illustrate with the costumes and arms of the reign of Edward IV.

In the second division the earl strides up the gangway plank in his fore and aft riding cloak of blue and ermine, with a hat of the same. The ship captain receiving him is clad in a grey hooded coat with a skirt of the same, of a texture which suggests the skipper's oilskins.









## IX

Here the Earl of Buckingham has come before the town of Troies in Champagne, where are the Dukes of Burgundy, Bourbon and Bar, the Count of Eu, the lord of Couci, and many other great folk. He sends forward to the barrier his two kings of arms, Chandos and Aquitaine, to parley with the garrison.

The form of the tabards of the officers of arms is of great interest. They bear the arms of England only where they should bear France and England quartered, but the arms are coarsely indicated, and it is unfortunate that few of the illuminators of pictures were experts in armorial devices, having no knowledge of the mystery of the shield painters. The Earl of Buckingham on horseback at the right bears the plain arms of England on his coat, without his border for difference.











## X

Here the English come to skirmish at the bulwark before Troies, and gain it by force of arms.

The defenders of Troies have built without the gates a 'bollewerq' and a 'bastille' made of doors and shutters and tables. An English knight leaps this with his horse and lays about him till horse and man are killed. From the gate tower the great lords look on at their ease. Under cover of archery the attackers, sword in hand, assault the bulwark with ladders. On the right a mild-faced cannonier is about to touch off a huge cannon whose direction seems to threaten attack, defence, bulwark and towers.

The turbaned French archer in the foreground wears over a mail frock a brigandine covered with red with gold points. The swordsman on the ladder may be remarked for his short skirt of scalework and for the armour of his legs. His greaves cover his legs to the knees, which are left unprotected. The straps which fasten the cuisses are also shown.









## XI

Whilst the English were riding through the realm of France, King Charles of France lay dying. We see him propped up in a high bed with a red coverlet and curtains wrought with golden fleurs de lys. He wears a turban-shaped cap, and to our surprise we find him clad in a white shirt, although the custom was still to lie in bed naked. About his bed are his brothers and councillors. The sleeve of the gentleman with his back to us shows that the fringed pauldron of the armour followed, as is usual, a fashion in civil dress.







## THE ATTWOODS AND THEIR BARD<sup>1</sup>

THE family of Attwood, famous in the glass and iron trades on Tyne and Wear, has produced many respectable citizens and one notable man. Thomas Attwood (1783-1856), Cobbett's 'King Tom,' was a leader of Birmingham reformers in the 'thirties' and founder of the once famous 'Birmingham Political Union for the Protection of Public Rights.' At the height of his day he was the hero of the midlands. His portraits, plain and coloured, were hawked in the streets and the ballad singers sang of him. He was a noisy and violent M.P., although as an agitator he kept within bounds and may be remembered to-day because he nipped in its beginning a movement of Passive Resisters who were organizing a refusal to pay taxes. His pet theory of the currency—that the issue of money creates markets—he urged in and out of season to the emptying of the parliament benches. He died leaving the memory of an honest and strenuous man and of an untiring bore, therefore Birmingham has honoured him with one of those grimy statues in frock coat and trousers which stand at the street corner to warn us that the private life is best.

Such a typical family of manufacturers and politicians deserve a little book as their memorial, a book of which a few copies might sleep honourably in the top shelves of public libraries, whilst others become parlour heirlooms amongst the Attwoods and their kin. But the needful book is not this of Mr. John Robinson's.

We begin a book without arrangement or system at an account and an illustration of a memorial brass set up in a Sunderland church to one of the Attwoods. As the Edward Attwood commemorated seems to have been an undistinguished member of his family, and as the brass itself, although to the pen dipped in journalese 'a beautiful example of the engraver's art,' is the commonplace production familiar to us

<sup>1</sup> THE ATTWOOD FAMILY, *with historic notes and pedigrees*, by JOHN ROBINSON. Printed for private circulation by Hills & Company, Sunderland, 1903.

in the windows of Covent Garden 'ecclesiastical art warehouses,' we may soon discover that the arrangement of paragraphs and pages is independent of any connected narrative. We have anecdotes of the Mr. Attwood with a kindly fancy for giving anonymous thousand-pound notes to hospitals and charities, and stories of the parliamentary days of the Attwoods, mingled with cuttings from local newspapers announcing Attwood marriages, deaths and burials, cuttings which are remorselessly reprinted at length. The mourners in each mourning coach are counted for us by name, 'the patent metallic coffin supplied by Mr. James Bunch, builder and undertaker of Cheshunt' is uncovered for us.

In and out of these chronicles of the grave—and of the grave's tasteful monument in red granite—we have a long tale of the great ancestry of the family. Now the family pedigree of these Attwoods is one upon which no doubt can be thrown. An appendix displays it in full, as it was compiled in 1888 and registered at the College of Arms. It was based upon sound research made by Mr. Thomas A. C. Attwood, a member of the family and a genealogist of the modern school. No genealogical difficulty is suggested by it, and the certificate of the officers of arms is a guarantee that the evidences for it have been carefully examined.

The first ancestor of the family is one George Attwood of Halesowen in Worcestershire, who married Mary Foley of the same place and died in 1721, having removed to Rowley Regis in Staffordshire. His son, another George, married Sarah Bowater and died in 1767. A third George bought Hawne House near Halesowen, and with him we see the rise of the family fortunes, the next generation giving us the first J.P. and D.L. At the time of the registering of this pedigree a grant of arms would seem to have been obtained. Here we have the simple and uncontestable facts of the Attwood family history, concerning which Mr. Robinson allows himself many pages of braggart assertion. The arrangement of the book gives us no aid in sorting out and piecing together the fragments of the preposterous family legend which weighs upon the Attwoods and their editor. A poet has spoken of the violet of a legend. In the story of the Attwoods and their kinsfolk legend gives us its trumpet-orchids.

With the first prosperous Attwood appeared the tale that



## THE ATTWOODS AND THEIR BARD 139

the family was a branch of the most distinguished family of the name to be found in the heraldry books, the Attwoods of Wolverley, concerning whom Nash is quoted as saying that they were 'the most ancient family in the county.' A reference to Nash saves his reputation, his phrase being 'the most ancient family in the parish.' The Attwoods of Wolverley having found knights of the shire in the fourteenth century, Mr. Robinson feels himself warranted in describing the Attwoods of Hawne House, whose first M.P. occurs in 1832, as having been 'associated with the representation of the people from the first of our parliamentary history down to the reign of Queen Victoria.' 'For upwards of 550 years they were active members in the council chambers of the nation.' From this beginning the editor finds ancestors for his Attwoods in tangled plenty.

So voluminous were the documents placed at my disposal, that the difficulty was what to leave out rather than what to embody in the appendix. . . .

But I make no apologies for bringing before the reader the records of so remarkable a family. From the far-off days of our pre-Norman history down to the great Victorian era, the family have ever been conspicuous for their patriotism and ceaseless industry. . . . The family for upwards of a thousand years have been foremost citizens in our national life and history.

This being the year of grace 1904, we may take it then, that the Attwoods of Hawne can be traced beyond the year 904, but Mr. Robinson gives us but tantalizing scraps from their genealogy. They have the rare distinction of possessing more than one pedigree and all equally authentic. We have already Mr. Robinson's declaration that they were foremost citizens in England of A.D. 904, but to our surprise Brittany claims them as well. Homer's birthplace was found in more than one city and country, and the 'De Bois afterwards Anglicized into Attwood, were knights of Brittany before the Conquest. When they came over with William I. they settled in Worcester.'

Their third origin was royal and French. 'The Attwoods, with the exception of two other families, had after the Conquest more land than any other family in England. They descended from the Capets, Kings of France!' In Wolverley church was once the effigy of a knight. As Attwoods were found at Wolverley the knight was to Mr. Robinson's mind so undeniably an Attwood ancestor that discussion of the point is needless. His legs were crossed, therefore all church-

yard legends witness that he must have been a crusader. 'On the coat of arms of this Crusader is the Fleur de Lys, a proof of his descent from the Capets, Kings of France.' The unimaginative antiquary, noting that the fleur de lys is not part of the arms of Attwood of Wolverley would but conclude that the crusader was not an Attwood, but we are in Mr. Robinson's hands.

Attwood being confessedly the name of one living at a wood, Mr. Robinson amplifies the family pedigree by admitting every one who at any time or in any country has lived at or in any wood whatever to the privileges of kinship. If you are from a French wood your name may be written Dubois or de Bois, but you are none the less an Attwood. Community of surname proves community of blood. Mr. Robinson's own name offers great possibilities which he cannot afford to neglect. Robinson is the son of Robin or Robert. Robert the Devil will make a fine figure in the Robinson pedigree volume, and the late Commander-in-Chief and the professional billiard champion cousins of whom one may be proud. And bold Robin Hood, clearly an ancestor of Mr. John Robinson, brings the Robinson pedigree to a most interesting point. For Robin was at or of a wood if ever any one was, and therefore an Attwood in grain. We begin to see that Mr. Robinson has his good reasons for his high opinion of the Attwoods.

It must not be imagined that this bold theory of the surname is used timidly by Mr. Robinson, for the famous line of Bois of Leicestershire has its own place in the Attwood history, just as Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, is here by reason of a similarity of arms. But it will hardly be believed, even by those whose appetite for marvels has been blunted by much reading of family history, that the famous Breton story of the Combat of the Thirty by the oak of Ploermel is here presented to us as handed down by a tradition of the Attwoods of Hawne! It is even so, and when Beaumanoir thirsts for water in the fight it is 'Geoffrey de Bois (Attwood)' who bids him '*bois ton sang*.'

A like exercise of what may be termed genealogy by instinct gilds the alliances of the Attwoods. The heralds' college pedigree, which by this time we are ready to denounce as grovelling and unimaginative, recognizes the marriage of the third George Attwood in 1742 with Rachel Maria Gaunt, daughter of Samuel Gaunt, grandson of Roger Gaunt of



## THE ATTWOODS AND THEIR BARD 141

Rowley Regis, beyond whom the official genealogist, hampered by his demands for parish register entries, wills and the like, will not suffer himself to be led.

The match with Gaunt gives Mr. Robinson and his method their best occasion.

The alliances of the Attwoods with the great families of the kingdom did not cease in the days of the Plantagenets, the Capets of France, or the houses of Beauchamp and Dudley. The grandfather of Mr. Edward Attwood of Southwick married, in 1716, Rachel Maria Gaunt, who was a descendant of Ralph Gaunt, Lord of Alost, Flanders, and a descendant of the family of

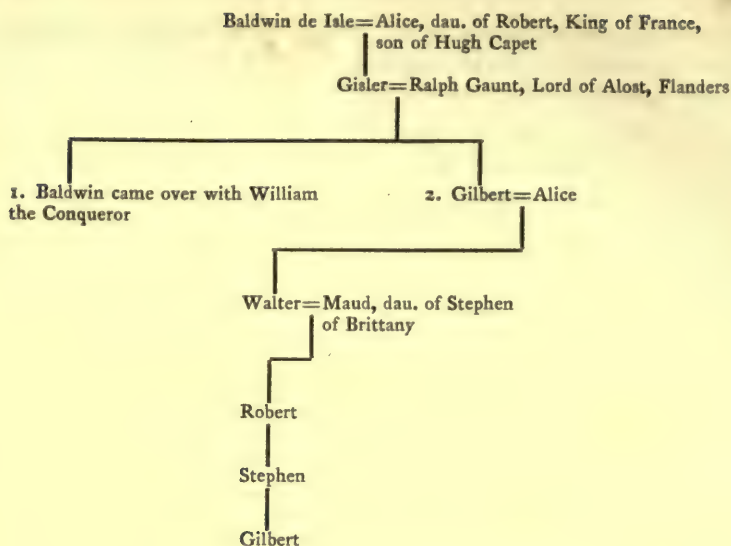
'Old John of Gaunt, time-honoured Lancaster.'

The relationship with John of Gaunt is stated for us on another page as a direct descent from his third son. That third son was, as Mr. Robinson is doubtless aware, the famous Cardinal Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester. The domestic life of churchmen in the middle ages was necessarily a private one, by reason of certain prejudices against the marriage of the clergy, and thus we may readily account for the small figure in history made by the cardinal's wife and offspring.

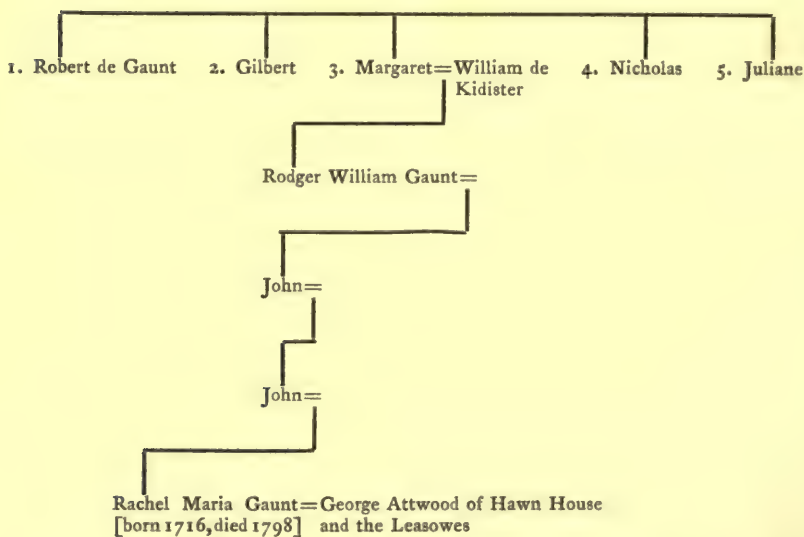
Further examination of our authority shows us that the Gaunts shared with the Attwoods their puzzling distinction of two or more differing lines of male ancestry. A pedigree in the appendix makes this clear, so innocent a pedigree in form and matter that we must ask our printer to render it at length.



## THE ANCESTOR



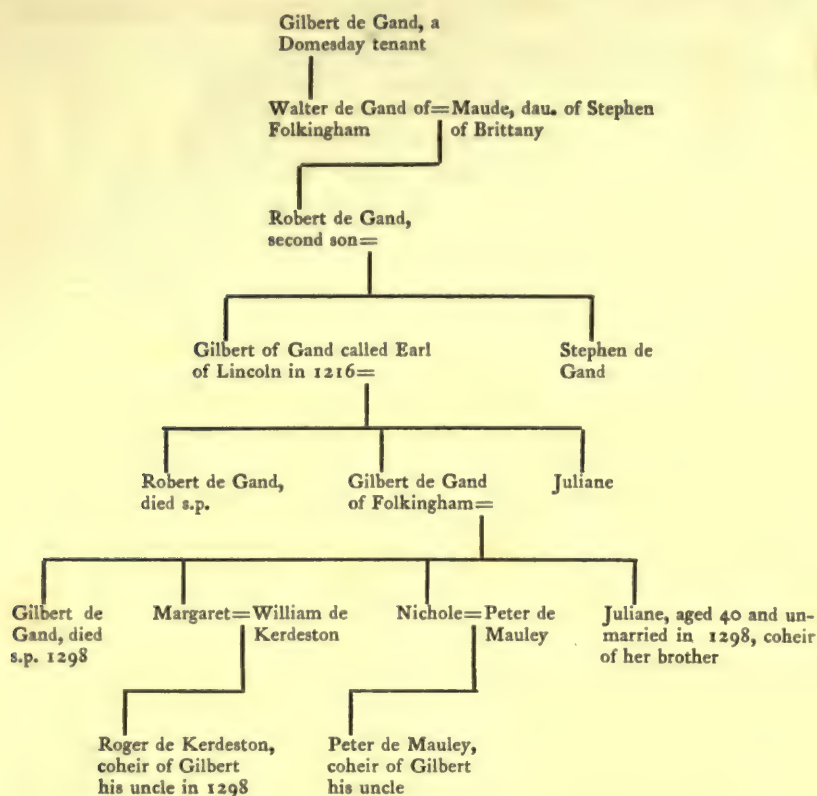
[A portion of the MS. representing six generations lost or mislaid on the death of Benjamin Attwood]



Unless the six missing generations include John of Gaunt we have here a second version of the pedigree of Rachel Maria. We may contrast with it the common and doubtless incorrect account of the family of Gaunt of Folkingham in

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Lincolnshire, which would seem to be the family of Rachel Maria's Gilberts and Roberts.



This pedigree and the pedigree registered at the College of Arms are both set right in important particulars by Mr. Robinson's chart pedigree, which was, we understand, found amongst the papers of the late Benjamin Attwood. Mr. Attwood's discovery that Roger de Kerdeston should be more accurately described as 'Rodger William Gaunt' saves us from the commonly received opinion that this line of Gaunt or Gand was extinct in name. Rodger William de Kerdeston de Kidister Gaunt, as we may be allowed to describe him, was born about 1278. As great-grandfather of Rachel Maria we have his marriage in 1640, which throws into shade the late achievement of Lord Donegall.

The reader must not imagine that this lofty monument to the Attwoods has not its base in chronicles and records,

for many are quoted. But the following sample will show that however intelligible to their collector they offer difficulties to the understanding of less instructed antiquaries.

Jon Boys (Bois) Attwood, habet licentium Celebraidi divine in oratorir sus de Wade achu Wolvordle et Trympelye per anno 19 Jan. 1357.

It were certainly better to take the Attwoods and the Gaunts upon the safer basis of their family traditions. The fragrance of these follows us to the book end. The last chapter is to tell us that Mr. B. St. John Attwood-Mathews is now living at Llanvihangel Court in Monmouthshire. It is very reasonably headed 'The Attwoods in History,' and the discovery that King Charles I. slept in a bedroom at Llanvihangel draws from Mr. Robinson as a necessary comment :—

It is interesting to find how interwoven with the great historic events of our national life has been the patriotism of the Attwood family. From century to century a De Bois or an Attwood has ever been foremost in the battles, the councils, and in the no less glorious peaceful development of the country.

We do not wonder at Mr. Robinson's enthusiasm for the patriotism of the Attwoods if we have quoted him fairly. As we understand him, a gentleman whose mother was of this godlike race has bought or rented an historic house ; and by reason of this the patriotism of his mother's relations is interwoven with the great historic events of our national life. King Charles is said to have directed a campaign from Llanvihangel, and the Attwoods are thereby 'foremost in their country's battles !' Tartarin of Tarascon, who had in youth refused a clerkship in a Singapore house, and reckoned himself therefor a seasoned authority on Mongolian warfare, that Tartarin would have understood and envied Mr. Robinson.

This then is one more of that tale of well bound, well printed works on genealogy which, nourished in imagination and untrammelled by study or discrimination, come in steady progress from the press. We congratulate Mr. Robinson, whom his title page shows to be a writer of some experience, on his production of a notable example. But his book may fall into the hands of a critic who should demand in a compiler of mediæval genealogy an acquaintance with at least such outlines of English history as are taught in our nurseries, with the Latin of the dame's school, or with the critical faculty



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which should enable the compiler to suspect a discrepancy of facts when more than one father is assigned to a single individual. Should such ill-fortune come to this book Mr. Robinson will have our sympathy, which must for the present be given to Mr. Thomas A. C. Attwood, who sees his honestly constructed pedigree of his family brought to scorn by Mr. Robinson's morris dance amongst 'de Boscos,' Capets, de Bois, and Gaunts. That a stranger should hang paper lanterns to the boughs of one's family tree is a trespass not to be forgiven.

O. B.

## THE CUMINS OF SNITTERFIELD

TWO suits of which the record is preserved in *Bracton's Note Book* enable me to supplement my paper on 'Giffard of Fonthill Giffard.'<sup>1</sup> I there showed that one of the coheirs of the Fonthill Giffards in the reign of John was William Cumin. Who he was and whence he came are points that seem to have remained hitherto undetermined; but his connection with Warwickshire and with Scotland can now be established.

In 1224 John de Mar(a)<sup>2</sup> and Eva his wife brought a suit by their attorney against Robert de Mandeville (eldest coheir of the Giffards) for Eva's third part (i.e. dower) of the fourth part of Sutton (Mandeville) and the third part of the third part of Fonthill (Giffard), Wilts, and the third part of the fourth part of (Avon) Dasset and Halford, Warwickshire,<sup>3</sup> these fractions being accounted for by the division of the Fonthill barony. They claimed this dower as that with which William Cumin, her former husband, had endowed her, her attorney, James 'Scot,' being witness thereto.<sup>4</sup> Robert's plea was that her husband had only endowed her with the third of the estates he held at the time of her espousals,<sup>5</sup> and Eva stated that she had been espoused in Scotland. Eva's connection with Scotland is further proved by the fact that earlier in the year (14 February) 'Eva que fuit uxor Willelmi Cumin' had received letters of safe-conduct 'in eundo per terram Anglie versus partes Scottie et inde redeundo.'<sup>6</sup>

In another suit of the same date (Mich. 1224) John and

<sup>1</sup> *Ancestor*, vi. 137-47.

<sup>2</sup> The name is 'Mar' in *Bracton's Note Book*, but an entry on the Close Rolls below seems decisive in favour of 'Mara.'

<sup>3</sup> *Bracton's Note Book* (ed. Maitland), ii. 718. The Warwickshire names, 'Dorset' and 'Alesfordia,' have baffled the indexer.

<sup>4</sup> William Cumin, therefore, was dead before this date.

<sup>5</sup> Which evidently implies that her husband, at that time, had not become a coheir of the Giffard fief.

<sup>6</sup> *Calendar of Patent Rolls* (1216-25), i. 427.

Eva claimed a third part of two-thirds of Snitterfield, Warwickshire, as dower with which her husband William Cumin had endowed her.<sup>1</sup> Their opponent, William de Canteloup, called for Eva's warranty, and John and Eva replied that it was in the keeping of King of Scotland, 'de quo tenet,' and that William only had possession of the land as *custos* during the minority of the heir. William admitted this and vouched to warranty John de Abetot, the lord.

Accordingly, in Trinity term following (1225),<sup>2</sup> John and Eva brought their suit against John de Abetot. John admitted her right to the dower if she would give him possession of the heir, but she and her husband replied that the heir was in Scotland and out of their control. John therefore lost his case.

An entry on the Close Rolls two years later (1227) gives the name of the heir—

John de Mara attornavit Jacobum de Lascel' et Warinum de Jernem' contra Johannem de Abbetot de *Margaria* filia et herede Willelmi Cumyn quam idem Johannes de Abbetot exigit a predicto Johanne et Eva uxore ejus.

So far all seems plain enough; but when we turn to Dugdale's *Warwickshire*<sup>3</sup> we find a very different version. To the last William Cumin he assigns as widow, not Eva, but Margerie—

Of these Cumins was William the last male branch, who being dead in 18 John (1216), Margerie his widow (and an heir) then took to husband William de Hastings. Which William Cumin left a daughter and heir called Margerie, within age in 13 Hen. III. (1228-9), and in ward to William de Cantilupe, but afterwards married to John de Cantilupe, a younger son to the said William.

His authority for making *Margerie* the widow is an entry on the Close Rolls of 1216—

Mandatum est vicecomiti Warewic' quod faciat habere Willelmo de Hasting' dotem uxoris sue que eam contingit de libero tenemento que fuit Willelmi Cumyn in Shultenesfeld' (Snitterfield)<sup>4</sup>

The only solution I can suggest is that there were two William Cumins, father and son, of whom the latter died some eight years after his father, leaving a widow Eva.

<sup>1</sup> *Bracton's Note Book*, ii. 695. John de Mar(a)'s name is there given wrongly, as is also the name of the place.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* ii. 547. <sup>3</sup> *Ed.* 1730, p. 661.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar of Close Rolls* (folio), i. 288b.



Although Snitterfield, like Halford and Avon Dasset, was in Warwickshire and was held of the Earls of Warwick, its tenure was quite distinct from that of the other two manors, and was unconnected with the Giffards. The *Testa de Nevill* (pp. 98, 99) shows us the two latter places held by 'the heir of Andrew Giffard' (the last Giffard of Fonthill), and elsewhere (p. 83) shows them held by Robert Mauduit, another of the Giffard coheirs. But Snitterfield it shows us (on p. 83) held by the above W[illiam] de Canteloup, and on p. 98 held by John de Canteloup (under Thomas de Clinton).<sup>1</sup> The Clinton holding under the earls was a great one, and Abetot may have been mesne lord between Clinton and Cumin. It is clear in any case that Cumin, who was apparently of Scottish extraction, was actual tenant of Snitterfield, for he witnessed as lord of Snitterfield—with Robert his brother—a Giffard charter.<sup>2</sup> Moreover his predecessor Walter Cumin was evidently holding Snitterfield under the Earls of Warwick as early as 1159, for he appears among the earl's knights to whom their scutage was remitted in that year.<sup>3</sup> And even on the Pipe Roll of 1130 a William Cumin is found in the district. Scottish genealogists may be able to affiliate these Cumins and to tell us who Eva was.

The above notes will at least clear up the Cumins' double tenure, which seems to have caused at the time some difficulty. To the sheriff of Warwickshire letters were sent, 16 February 1224, to make inquisition—

si Willelmus Cumin tenuit de nobis in capite per servitium militare in Baillia tua et si per inquisitionem inde factam tibi constiterit ipsum Willelmum de nobis non tenuisse per servitium militare in Baillia tua, tunc permittas Robertum de Maundevilla et alios dominos terre que fuit ipsius Willelmi in Baillia tua plenam inde seisinam, etc.<sup>4</sup>

In the same year the sheriff of Wilts is informed that the king has granted to Osbert Giffard—

custodiam terre et heredis Willelmi Cumin cum maritagio ipsius heredis que ad dominum Regem spectat eo quod terra sua de Domino Rege tenuit in capite per servitium militare.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Compare the appearance of John de Canteloup, as representing the Cumin coheir in *Testa*, p. 152.

<sup>2</sup> *The Giffards*. By General Wrottesley, p. 11.

<sup>3</sup> Pipe Roll 5 Hen. II. p. 26.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar of Close Rolls* (folio), i. 585b.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* p. 582.

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The two widely separated estates being brought by the heiress to a Cantelupe, we find John de Cantelupe receiving charters for a market at his manor of Snitterfield, 24 September 1257, and for free warren in his manor of Fonthill (Giffard) on the same day.<sup>1</sup>

J. HORACE ROUND.

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar of Charter Rolls*, i. 474-5.

## WHAT IS BELIEVED

*Under this heading the Ancestor will call the attention of press and public to much curious lore concerning genealogy, heraldry and the like with which our magazines, our reviews and newspapers from time to time delight us. It is a sign of awakening interest in such matters that the subjects with which the Ancestor sets itself to deal are becoming less and less the sealed garden of a few workers. But upon what strange food the growing appetite for popular archæology must feed will be shown in the columns before us. Our press, the best-informed and the most widely sympathetic in the world, which watches its record of science, art and literature with a jealous eye, still permits itself, in this little corner of things, to be victimized by the most recklessly furnished information, and it would seem that no story is too wildly improbable to find the widest currency. It is no criticism for attacking's sake that we shall offer, and we have but to beg the distinguished journals from which we shall draw our texts for comment to take in good part what is offered in good faith and good humour.*

**I**T happened that a reviewer of the *Ancestor* in a morning newspaper commented upon the few eminent men produced by a certain family which figured in our series of the oldest families. The next morning brought his answer in the shape of a letter to the editor.

## WHAT ANCIENT FAMILIES HAVE DONE.

SIR,—The remark in your issue of the 7th inst. that ‘politicians have noticed that families of very long descent have in many cases failed to produce such eminent men as occasional bishops or judges,’ is an unjustifiable sneer. Men of gentle birth entitled to wear swords have ever deemed that the profession of arms was their natural calling, as the rolls of honour of England, Scotland, and Ireland amply testify, from long before the days of Drake and Howard to those of Nelson and Wellesley down to the present day. The foundations of the British Empire have been well cemented with the blood of scions of ancient and honourable families who died for God, King, and country while leading the way to victory. Neither journals nor magazines then existed for the most part to advertise their achievements, and latter-day critics can form no idea of the feelings of chivalry which have ever caused men of good blood to be silent as to their own deeds, and ever to stand aside and allow others to reap the fame and rewards that they themselves have won on many a hard-fought field of battle



by sea and land. For many generations the legal and clerical professions were considered none too honourable callings, and not altogether without reason, though happily times have changed, and they are nowadays honourable enough. That the names of men of old family are not more often seen in prominent positions of civilian life only proves that they are few in numbers as compared with the crowds of self-seeking, pushing, and ambitious men of humbler extraction, striving to win notice for themselves. And here, again, the feelings of chivalry cause men of birth more frequently than not to stand aside to allow others to gain the prizes that they themselves might, if they chose, have won. As a man of ancient and honourable descent, but disliking self-advertisement, I subscribe myself, yours, etc.,

IGNOTUS.

This letter of Ignotus deserves the few more readers which the *Ancestor* can give it. It is a touching instance of the pious belief which the general public born after the publication of the Waverley Novels keeps in the Old England and the old times of the romancer. Ignotus might sign himself Legion, and be within the truth. In the curl of every sentence we have the middle ages of the *Keepsakes* and the *Giftbooks*. In midstage is the soldier radiant in white steel, the white ostrich plumes billowing down his back. Crouching in the wings are the flabby priest, the scrivener lawyer, and the base merchant. The peasant, comic in his vileness, makes a background for the knight, who with his mouth full of vows to God, the peacock and the ladies goes splendidly about his quest of honour and the smiles of those in the balconies.

The very phrase of 'men of gentle birth entitled to wear swords' takes us to the land of such fancies where the wearing of a sword is such a distinction as can be allowed only to the gently born. The sight of a roll of pleas of the crown will correct any impression that this land was England in the Middle Ages. And England of no later time will encourage the belief. The eighteenth century saw swords peep from the skirts of many fine gentlemen, but the wearing was no privilege of caste. Any likely young fellow in his holiday suit might buckle one on without showing shield or pedigree. William Hogarth for one was *vilain* if we search an ancestry for him, but nevertheless when a guinea or two came in from his plates he would put on his sword and walk the Mall with the best.

\* \* \*

It may be that Ignotus does not speak of the wearing of a sword at home, but would have us believe that the privilege of wielding one in a field of France or Scotland belonged to

the gently born. Again the records will not help him. Cæsar might write of the Gauls that they loved fine speeches and military affairs, and the Gauls' descendants keep these tastes. But we English, although sinfully fond of a brawl, have been ever inclined, until Mr. Kipling came to rebuke us, to despise military affairs and the soldier's calling. The belief of the village mother, whose son has gone for a soldier, that her child is now a wastrel and the companion of the gallows-worthy, reflects truly enough the feeling of the old English household of all ranks. We recall the Jacobean will of a well-born squire who has found a younger son smoking a certain herb detestable to the father. Forthwith the son is cut off with a shilling, and the father sets down in his will his forebodings of the wretchedness to which that son will come. Yes, he will become, for all the broken-hearted father can see, a serving-man 'or a souldier,' both callings in which, as the old squire bitterly observes, in which a young man 'may enjoy a pipe of tabacko.'

\* \* \*

The spirit of Falstaff's ragged regiment was too often in those whom the sheriff's levies or the king's writ forced to the wars. To serve the king in his wars was the felon's loophole for escape. The great baron, locked up in steel, with his banner and pennon going before him, saw the world not unpleasantly in the king's host, and the pay was welcome in his purse. The knight and the squire, if they prayed before battle after the fashion of Arcite and Palamon, would have left Mars and Venus for the shrine of Mercurius. The love tales of those business-like ages taught gentlemen, as in *Petit Jehan de Saintré*, that if they loved *par amours* something might be made out of the lady's affections. And war likewise was something which carried the possibility of a plump prisoner whose ransom might fill their hands with gold pieces; or if ransom were not to be looked for, the prisoner might be knocked on the head and his fine coat and plates happed up in a handy bundle. With men of ancient and honourable descent treachery was also a marketable article. The surrender of a strong place for the sake of a bribe would make Europe ashamed if a modern captain did the deed. Under the mere suspicion of such a wickedness Bazaine died as a leper and an exile. But any old chronicler has a dozen stories for you which go to show that to the old



chivalry the jangling of crowns in a bag was a temptation which many could not abide.

The 'men of good blood silent as to their own deeds' were doubtless ancestors of Ignotus in the direct line, and for them he must be responsible. We do not find them amongst the chieftains who maintained bards that no crumb of their achievements should go unmultiplied to the loaf of legend. And in the many-coloured life of the middle ages we find them not, for chronicle, book and ballad speak loudly of a braggart age. More than one Elizabethan hero wrote his own tale for fear that aught of his fame should be lost, and the practice shows no sign of being abandoned by our great commanders.

If we may follow the argument of Ignotus the 'hard fought battle by sea and land' is won either invariably or as a general rule by 'men of good blood.' These, it would seem, are accompanied to the field by certain plebeians to whom the fame and rewards incident upon the victory are silently handed by the victors. If this be so, the shy patricians must have suffered a long vexation from the writings of the chroniclers and historians, who, disregarding the delicate feelings of chivalry, have from the beginning of time given all honour, fame and applause to the well-born combatant.

\* \* \*

The names picked by Ignotus to point his argument are somewhat unfortunately chosen. The ancient and honourable descent, the 'good blood' of Drake or Nelson might be questioned by any genealogist. France, which in the past drew that sharp line between gentle and simple which we never saw in England, found a Ney and a Murat who would go as far as a Condé or a Turenne. The one great medieval commander of English birth who made a name and figure in mid-Europe was *Giovanni Aguto*—English John Hawkwood, the tailor's son from Essex. For *Ignotus* the knight on the barded horse, the admiral in a cocked hat are the heroes upon whom Fame should wait, with the mouthpiece of her trumpet near her lips, but our own age has learned to its advantage to see the bare-legged billmen tramping before the knight, and the handy man standing by the admiral.

\* \* \*

The saying that 'the legal and clerical professions were considered none too honourable callings' at some unspecified



period of the middle ages or renaissance is a hard one, and one reflecting upon the 'men of ancient and honourable descent' for whom *Ignotus* would speak, for Courtenays, Scropes, Graunsons, Nevills and Greys filled many a see and enjoyed many a fat beneficence in the old days, to the envy of their fellows. As for the legal profession, it was the stay and prop of nobility. The gentleman who was not something of a lawyer was for centuries reckoned a boor; there are very few indeed of our really ancient houses which have not at one time or another mended their fortunes by the law.

\* \* \*

To sum up, let us say that England had never a noble and gentle caste unless it were in the Yellowplush days of the early nineteenth century. It is the business of the antiquary and genealogist to show that England has an ancestor in a frieze coat as well as an ancestor in cloth of gold, and enough reason to be proud of both.

\* \* \*

The death of Lord Alington has revived the fame of yet another of those great officers who surrounded Duke William at Hastings, even as Napoleon is surrounded by his marshals in a canvas of Vernet or Meissonier. Newspapers, and here and there an old-fashioned peerage book, alone keep their fame green, for these disinterested warriors are never found in the crabbed paragraphs of Domesday book. They came here to fight at Senlac and to found families of Georgian and Victorian peers. Manors and rents they sought not.

Though Lord Alington was only made a peer in 1876, he came of a family of ancient lineage, one of his ancestors being Sir Hildebrand de Alington, who was marshal to William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings.

We have before this debated upon the right of a family to select any one of the million forefathers from whom they may descend in the female line as the ancestor and founder of their family. When we speak of a man's ancient lineage we mean, in England at least, that his father's family was an ancient one. Lord Alington's paternal line of Sturt begins a respectable pedigree with a Hampshire family of the seventeenth century, from whom rose a London alderman of the time of William and Mary. The nearest Alington ancestor of the late peer was his great-grandfather's mother's mother. It may be presumed that the family of Alington bred and married off as

many daughters as sons, so that had Sir Hildebrand not only marshalled the Conqueror's army but also enjoyed an objective existence, the privilege of descent from him might have been shared by most living Englishmen. It is true that the late Lord Alington was heir-general to the extinct Alingtons, barons of Horseheath, but such a descent does not in itself give the boast of 'ancient lineage' to the family enjoying it.

\* \* \*

Mr. R. Cavendish, whilst contradicting in a letter to the newspapers the incorrect statement that the Dukes of Devonshire spring from the famous servant and biographer of Wolsey, brings to light an ancient and half forgotten ancestor of the Cavendishes. According to Mr. Cavendish,

The Duke is a lineal descendant of Roger de Gernon, who came over, with the Conqueror.

For a hundred years even the peerages have been disallowing Roger de Gernon's claim as a Cavendish ancestor. That the tale of him should re-appear in the twentieth century shows that the Elizabethan pedigree-mongers, who set him at the top of the Cavendish pedigree, wrote with an immortal ink against which criticism will not prevail. No evidence for the story of Gernon and Cavendish is forthcoming, but we may let it rest undisturbed upon the reasonable belief that a duke's ancestor must necessarily have landed at Pevensey.

\* \* \*

By the aid of the newspapers we shall soon make of these columns a patchwork Golden Book of those English families which look down upon our Norman-English houses as the children of new men and interlopers. The growing passion for genealogy demands that a piece of pedigree should follow each newspaper paragraph announcing death or marriage or social and political distinction. Our first Saxon shall be Sir Thomas Edward Milborne-Swinnerton-Pilkington.

The Pilkingtons are a family who held a good estate long before the Conquest, and the single name, held in honour in the north for many centuries, was a good enough description until the eighth baronet married Mary, second daughter and coheir of Thomas Swinnerton of Butterton Hall.

For a commentary on this statement the reader of the *Ancestor* may turn the page to Mr. Bird's learned article on



the Traffords, where he will hear from one speaking with authority that 'the early history of the Pilkingtons is all unknown; but instead of being Saxon irreconcilables they were more probably on the side of the invader, for Pilkington was held of the baron [of Manchester] by knight's service.' The first part of Mr. Bird's statement was admitted by the family when a volume of Pilkington genealogies was printed some years since, for no pre-Conquest ancestor was produced, and the earlier generations from the Conquest were occupied with improbably named knights for whom, as was admitted, no apology could be made to the antiquary.

\* \* \*

The Duke of Norfolk's marriage, as might have been expected, brought Hereward the Wake a dozen times bowing before the curtain. A single quotation will serve for many.

The Duke's ancestry goes to the back of beyond of history. He shares King Edward's Plantagenet ancestry, and so comes from the Saxon Kings. Perhaps his proudest boast is that his name of Howard is merely that of his ancestor, Hereward the Wake, whose representative, Sir Herewald Wake, is still in Northamptonshire, as his family has been for over six centuries. He is the fifteenth holder of his dukedom, and but for mysterious attainders, which were subsequently cancelled, would be about the nineteenth.

\* \* \*

It is the misfortune of the great house of Howard of Norfolk that their high estate has made them the sport of pedigree-mongers. 'Aubery, earl of Passey,' at some vague pre-conquest date was for a long time the forefather of whom the genealogist exhorted them to make 'their proudest boast.' But Aubery, having watched for a while at the head of the pedigree, was relieved by the more famous name of the half-mythical Hereward, from whom, as Dugdale relates, 'some have not stuck to derive' the house of Norfolk, the Hereward who was already pressed as an ancestor for the Northamptonshire Wakes. In both cases the Hereward myth rests upon the assertions of genealogists as impudent as unskilful, and it is worthy of note that whilst the Wakes have taken the fabrication to their hearts, the great family pedigree made by Howards for Howards is content to derive their famous line from their first known ancestor, William Howard, a judge in 1293. In the face of this fact it is surely a hard thing that the descendant of the victor of Flodden should have a myth thrust upon him to which his family have ever refused countenance.



Arundel Castle has also been stormed and taken by the paragraphers. Again it is proclaimed that the mere ownership of Arundel gives an earldom to the duke, a statement inconsistent with the fact that the earldom of Arundel is enjoyed by the duke under the entail created by an Act of 1627. At least one of our illustrated journals has discovered a line of earls of Arundel before the conquest, ending with Harold son of Godwin, Earl of Arundel and king of the English. And the foundations of Arundel Castle are described to us as of herring-bone brickwork, and therefore of the age of the Druids !

\* \* \*

An evening paper enables us to welcome back to the printed line and the light of day a picturesquely named ancestor. Lady Clifford of Chudleigh, who is to break a bottle over the prow of the *Devonshire*, is hailed as

a Towneley of Towneley—a Lancastrian family that reckons itself up as Lords of Towneley since the remote antiquity of Spartlingus, Dean of Whalley.

Spartlingus of the ninth century, in his remote antiquity, is safe from questioning genealogists. It is an unlikely thing that any record will leap to light to gratify the entirely modern taste for demanding proofs of kinship. Whitaker, in his history of Whalley, accepted in simple faith Spartlingus and his line, which line included a Towneley ancestor with the even pleasanter name of Liwlphus Cutwolph, of whom is told, says Whitaker, 'a wild and picturesque story that he cut off the tail of a wolf while hunting in Rossendale.' This may be an early instance of the taking of a brush, but in any case we have an interesting note of what in the eyes of the learned Whitaker gave wildness and picturesqueness to a story.

\* \* \*

But the Towneley ancestor is not to be found amongst the Deans of Whalley, but in John o' the Legh, a fourteenth century gentleman who married a coheir of the old lords of Towneley. As will be imagined, the Clifford paragraph in reciting the honours of Clifford includes the shadowy countship of the Holy Roman Empire derived from a marriage with an Arundell of Wardour. An article in an earlier volume of the *Ancestor* has pointed out that the doctrine which gives the countship to Lord Clifford would fill Europe with counts of the empire.

Our next Anglo-Saxon is Lord Derby. A very busy paragraph taking many forms and sometimes expanding to an article, may be recorded in its shortest form:—

Lord Derby had an ancestor in England—William Stanley of Stanley—fifty years before the battle of Hastings.

The origin of such an ancestral tale is as a rule not far to seek. The nearest peerage will afford in its first paragraph of 'lineage' a closely packed version of the Elizabethan or Victorian family legend upon which the fore-conquest ancestor may stand. The peerage if consulted under Derby will certainly give antiquity to the Stanleys with no grudging hand. With Adam they begin, not Adam the lord of Eden garden, but Adam de Aldithley, who accompanied Duke William from Aldithley in Normandy, a fair town without doubt, and as improbably named as any Norman lordship we have yet encountered. But even this generous narrative does not give the manor of Stanley and the surname derived from it to any direct ancestor of the Earl of Derby nearer to the Conquest than Adam's grandson.

We may be unduly suspicious of treachery—our English nerves under a halfpenny press are no longer what they were under a penny press—but we resent William Stanley of Stanley's presence in England fifty years before the unfortunate incident of the battle of Hastings. To us he is a suspicious character, this pretended Englishman with the very French name of William. In our opinion he was nothing better than a Norman spy, and we despise our Staffordshire forefathers in that they did not suspect him, if only for the sham English surname with which he disguised himself, at a date long before territorial surnames obtained in England. Genealogists with Lord Derby's pedigree at heart, a pedigree which the commonplace facts and dates of records would probably carry to the twelfth century, should bestir themselves and see whether 'William de Stanley of Stanley,' *circa* 1016, cannot be escorted to the frontiers of history.

## A FIFTEENTH CENTURY ROLL OF ARMS

(Continued from Vol. VII. 215)

Gules a wave silver between six billets silver. RYCHARD CHARPYS [*vel* CHAPPYS].

Silver a bend sable with a silver wolf running thereon. TOMAS WOLWELEY.

Sable 2 cheveron silver between three ladies' heads silver cut off at the neck. JOHN KYLWYNGETON.

Gules and ermine quarterly with a goat's head razed silver in each gules quarter. RYCHARD MORTON.

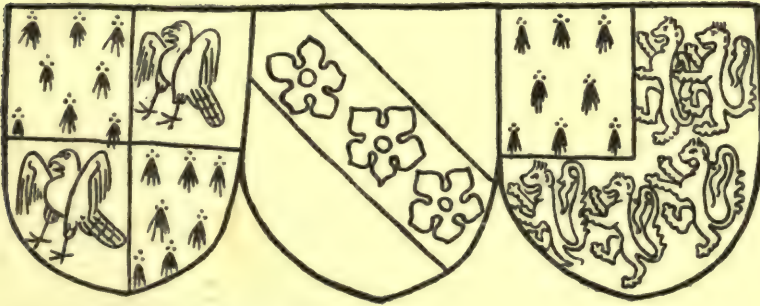
Gold three cheverons gules with three golden fleurs de lys on each. SIR FITZ RAWFE.

Sable three leaping goats silver. JOHN GAYTFORDE.

Gules powdered with crosslets fitchy silver and three silver fleurs de lys out of silver leopards' heads. SIR HARREY NEVYLLE.

Ermine a bend sable with three silver goats' heads razed thereon. SIR TOMAS MOWLSOW.

Sable a cheveron gules between three silver cups without covers. JOHN CAUNDYSCH.



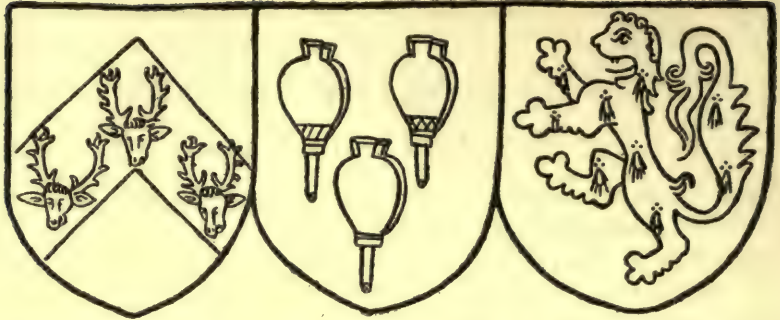
Quarterly ermine and azure with a rising falcon of gold in the azure quarters. WYLYAM COLLENGE.

Green a bend gules with three golden<sup>1</sup> cinqfoils thereon.

Azure six lioncels silver and a quarter ermine. SIR JOHN CHAYNE.

<sup>1</sup> The colours of the bend and the cinqfoils are perhaps mistaken.





Green a cheveron silver with three harts' heads gules.

Silver three bellows sable. JOHN SHYPTON.

Gules a lion sable with *ermynes* upon the *sabyls*. TOMAS TYP-  
PYRLEY.



Silver three fleurs de lys gules. JOHN OSBERNE.

Gold three lions' heads sable rased. NYCOLAS KENTON.

Sable two silver greyhounds with collars rampant back to back  
and looking back at each other. NYCLAS BARNARD.

Azure three swimming roach silver. SIR JOHN ROCHE.

Silver a chief gules with a sable martlet in the chief. GYLBERD  
WAUTON.

Azure three golden dolphins. TOMAS WARRE.

Azure with drops of gules and a cheveron gold between three  
golden lions' heads rased. TOMAS WYNDHAM.

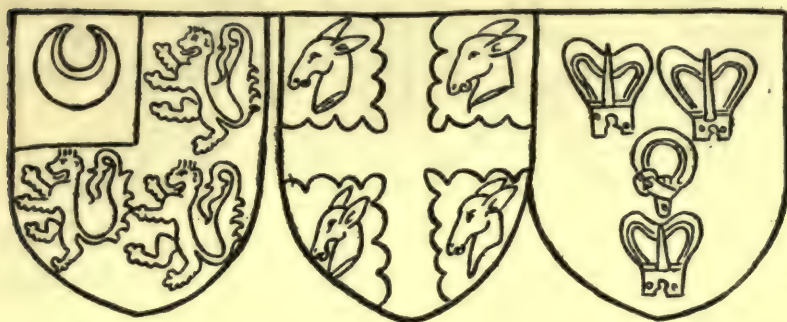
Wavy gules and silver. JOHN PELMORBA.

Purple a cheveron gold engrailed between three fleurs de lys  
gold. PYERSSE OSSANNE.

Silver a lion chequy gold and azure. SIR RAWFE DE COBHAM.

Gules three lions passant ermine with crowns of gold. TOMAS  
FELTON.

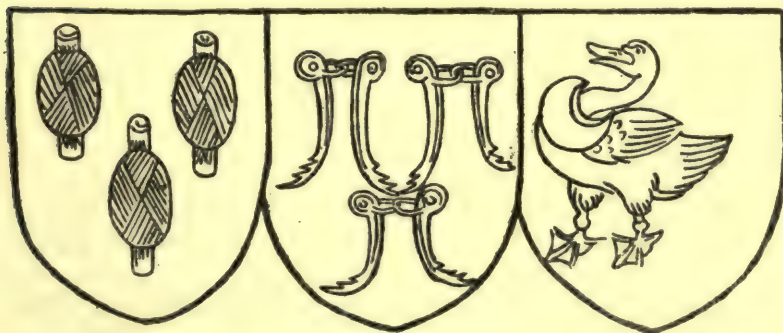
Silver three bearded Saracens' heads<sup>1</sup> of sable with golden wreaths. THOMAS WYSE.



Gules four lions silver and a silver quarter with a crescent gules thereon.

. . . a cross engrailed of sable between four green does' heads cut off at the neck.

Sable a buckled garter between three buckle ends. JOHN BOKELAND.



Azure three hanks of silver twine wound about three golden sticks.<sup>2</sup> WYLYAM HONTT.

Silver three horse barnacles sable. WYLYAM BARNARD [*rectius* BARNAKE].

Sable a silver swan with a golden crescent on his breast. THOMAS COLBY.

<sup>1</sup> The heads may be those of the three *wise* men.

<sup>2</sup> The charges are somewhat uncertain.



Ermine three running unicorns of gules. WYLYAM UPP TOMAS.  
Sable a chevron silver between three pair of interlaced triangles—or pentacles—of silver.

Silver two crossed *grosyng eynes* between four *malets* [corrected in a later hand to *nayles*] all sable and a chief azure with a demi-leopard [GLASIER'S COTE¹] passant gold.

#### OLDE LORDYS OF TYME PAST

Vairy. LORD AMONDWYLE.

Gules a fesse vair between three fleurs de lys out of leopards' heads. LORD CANTLEY [CANTELOW].

Silver a chief indented azure.

Quarterly gold and gules with a border vair. [FITZ JOHN.¹]

Gold a bend vair and a border gules engrailed.

Azure a bend and six martlets of gold.

Gules a bend engrailed gold. [MARSHALL.¹]

Azure six lioncels gold. [Over this shield is written *The armes of seynt Tybbaute vj crosseys botton pychey of gold the filld gules*. Under the shield in a later hand is LONGSPEE.]

A fesse between six crosslets formy fitchy all party athwart and countercoloured silver and sable. WYLYAM COTYNGHAM.

Azure a bend gules with three silver dolphins thereon. SEWYN EDNAM.

Silver a dance paly gules and sable between three pierced molets sable. [MOORE.¹]

Sable three pickaxes silver. EDMOND CHYRE [*also* PIGOT¹].  
Over this shield is pasted another—Gold a lion azure and a label gules. COUNT DE WORCESTYR.

Gules a silver fesse engrailed between three bulls' heads gold.  
TOMAS TORRELL.

¹ In a later hand.



Silver a cheveron gules between three lodged harts of gules.

SYMOND HEGGYS.

Sable a pair of wings points upwards razed from the shoulder.

JOHN BRESYNHAM.

Silver two waves sable and a chief sable with a leopard gold thereon. STEWYN PERCY.

Gold three bulls' heads gules. WYLYAM BOULL.

Party silver and azure cheveronwise with three pomanders [?] hanging each from a chain and ring, the one in the foot being gold, the others having no colour shown. SIR TOMAS OF BRETLYS.

Sable a fesse ermine between three cups silver. WYLYAM OF GRANTHAM.

Silver three plain crosses fitchy sable with a border gules. TOMAS CHESNALE.

Green six lioncels silver.

Gules three golden eel-bucks.

Silver a cheveron between three eagles gules. SIR ROBARD FRAUNCYS.

Azure a bend gold with four [*sic*] pierced molets of silver thereon.<sup>1</sup> WYLYAM RYNGEBORNE.

Sable three wells silver. WYLYAM BORTON.

Gules four bars ermine and a border ermine. SIR NYCOLL DABERYHCORT.<sup>2</sup>

Azure three horse heads gold cut off at the neck with silver bridles. JOHN HORSLEYE.

Azure a crescent gold between three fleurs de lys gold. JOHN FLORRE.

Silver three roundels gules each azure and gules cheveronny. WYLYAM CARRANT.

Green a cheveron gold between three pierced molets gold. SIR JOHN POUDSAY.

Gules a cheveron azure between three owls silver. JOHN SLYE.

Gold a hart's head gules. WYLYAM POLE.

Silver and sable gyronny with a quarter gules and a silver cup thereon. JOHN STRETLEY.

Gules three pomelled crosslets fitchy gold. SEYNT TYBAWTE

<sup>1</sup> The great plenty of shields with what the heraldry books style 'colour on colour' and 'metal on metal' will be noted.

<sup>2</sup> The Dabridgecourt shield is misapprehended, being really of ermine with three *hamedes* (= barriers or trunked bars) of gules.

*knyght.* The blazon of this shield on an earlier page calls them *bottony*, which is probably the accurate contemporary blazon.

Silver a chief of green with a T-cross between two pierced molets of gold. HARRY DREWRY.

Gules a fesse silver between three chessrooks silver with three roses gules on the fesse. JOHN ROKYS.

Gold three bars gules and a quarter ermine. NYCOLAS GAWSELL.

Silver a fesse of green indented with sable and a border sable. JOHN HODY.

Gold six voided lozenges sable (three and three). WYLYAM CREDY.

Sable a fesse ermine engrailed between three hawks silver with their bells and jesses. JOHN FAWKYS.

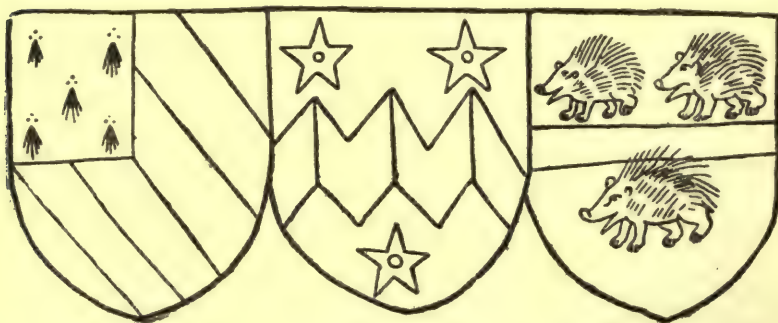
Silver a saltire and a chief of gules with three silver escallops in the chief. SIR WATYR TAYLBOYS.

Sable a fesse silver between three goats' heads razed ermine. JOHN FERBY.

Silver a chief gules and six martlets countercoloured. SIR HARRY FENWYK.

Gules a bend azure with three golden fleurs de lys thereon. SIR JOHN CHAYNE.

Azure three piles gold. SIR GYE DE BRYAN.



Bendy azure and gold with a quarter ermine. SIR WYLYAM BYSCHOPPYSTON.

. . . a dance paly gules and sable between three pierced molets . . .

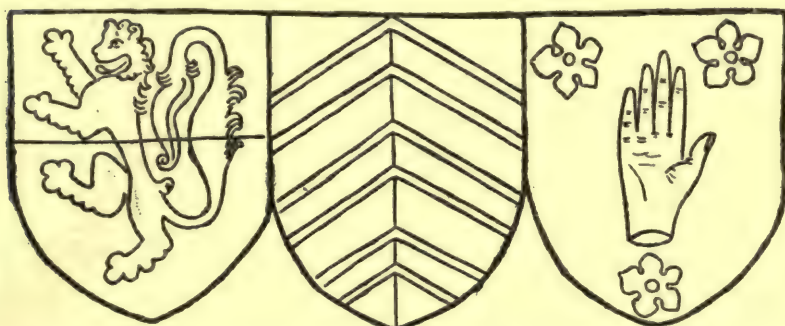
Azure a fesse gold between three golden urchins. JOHN ABBRALL.



Sable a dance gold between three martlets gold. JOHN SKOGGAM.

WHYCHECOTE of *Lyncolnesbire beryth iij bores gules w<sup>t</sup> a fylde of silver*. The boars are one under the other. The shield is crossed out.

Gold a lodged hart azure. JOHN TREDERFFE.



Silver a chief gules with a golden lion over all. TOMAS CHAWSERYS.

Party azure and green with three voided cheverons . . . JOHN SAYE.<sup>1</sup>

Gules a silver hand between three silver cinquefoils. RYCHARD WORSOPPE.

Gules six billets of ermine.

Burelly *ermyñ* and *ermyne*. WYLYAM BEDFORD.

Gules a cross silver *bylytte of sabyll*. TOMAS GAMSON.

Sable two bars gold and a chief silver with a crescent sable thereon. SIR RYCHARD FROGNALE.

<sup>1</sup> Sir John Saye of Broxbourne, for whose coat this seems to be meant, bore party azure and gules with three golden voided cheverons, the field within the cheverons being party gules and azure.



Silver a cheveron gules between three green sheaves of broom.

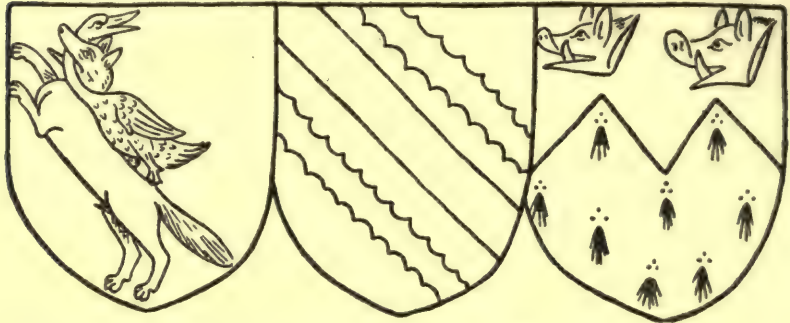
TOMAS PORTHALYNE.

Party silver and gules. SIR RYCHARD WALGRAW.

Sable a cheveron silver between three harts' heads silver with horns of gold. JOHN HERTTLINGTON.

Wavy sable and silver. SIR GYLBERD DELAFELD.

Gules a border silver with roundels of gules.

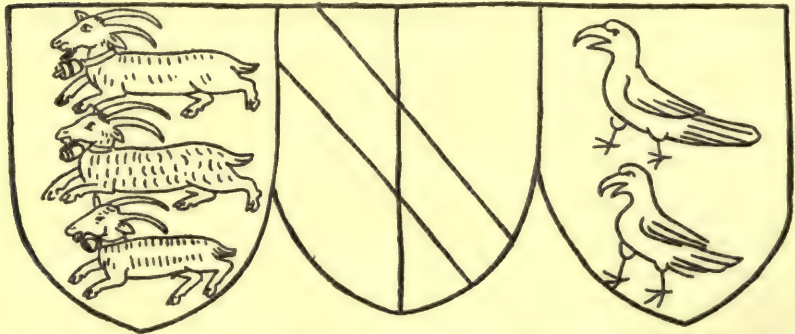


Azure a leaping fox of silver carrying off a goose.

Gold a bend sable between two more of sable engrailed.

WHYTFELDE.

Ermine a chief indented sable with two boars' heads of gold *armyd w<sup>t</sup> sylver*. HARRY SOULBY. [SANDFORD *idem*.<sup>1</sup>]

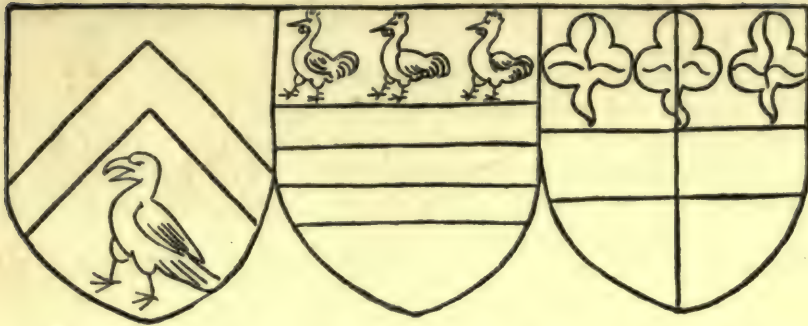


Sable three [running?] goats silver, one below the other, with bells at their collars. JAMYS STANSFELDE.

Party silver and gules with a bend countercoloured. [CHAU-SER.<sup>1</sup>]

Gold two corbies sable. CORBETT OF MARTON.

<sup>1</sup> In a later hand.



A silver cheveron with the field gules above and gold below and a raven in the foot. JOHN MARCHALL.

Silver two bars gules and three cocks gules in the chief. WYLYAM BLAUXTON.

[Party silver and sable a fesse and three trefoils in the chief all countercoloured.<sup>1</sup>] JOHN CUNTUN.

Gules crusilly silver with two bars and six leopards' heads of gold. KYNGE HARALDE.

Sable three luces silver, two being crossed heads downward behind the third. SIR WYLYAM TROUDBEKKE.

Ermine three pairs of bellows of gules.

*The feld sylvyr a woyde crosse of sabyll a schoychon of gold [with] an egyll splayed of sabyll.*

*A beryth asewre a lyon passant of gold [with] a towre pynakelyd and enbataylyd of the same [upon his back].*

[Quartyrly] *sylyvr and gowlys iiij crosse ferdemolyne of the same [that is, countercoloured].*

*A beryth synobyll vj loucys eyronde of sylvyr.*

*A beryth asewre ij serpentys hedys of gold rasyd the tongys of gold crosletwyse.*

*A beryth a poynt sylvyr the chefe enty of asewre v crosse forme of gold [in the chief].*

Silver a chief gules with a millrind cross voided and countercoloured lying saltirewise.

Azure a bend party gules and gold and a border engrailed party gold and gules. EMONDE PRYORE.

Sable three silver lilies with stalks and leaves and a chief party azure and gules with a fleur de lys gold and a leopard gold.

Gules a chief sable indented with three escallops silver.

<sup>1</sup> Shield struck out.

Silver six fleurs de lys azure and a chief gold indented. JOHN PASTON.

Gules a cheveron gold between three silver combs.

Party gold and gules with a dolphin upright countercoloured.

Azure three pairs of crossed keys of silver and a chief gules with three silver dolphins upright. [THE FISHMONGERS.<sup>1</sup>]

Party azure and gules with a saltire countercoloured between four golden crescents.

Ermine an arched chief of gules with a single label pendant [?] of ermine hanging from the top.

Party palewise and cheveronwise silver and azure countercoloured with a fleur de lys azure in the first quarter and another of silver [*sic*] in the fourth.

Silver a pale gules indented.

Party sable and gold cheveronwise and battled with three lions countercoloured.

Azure an eagle silver within a [single] flowered tressure of silver. WANPAGE.

Party cheveronwise sable and ermine with two leopards' heads silver in the chief.

Party gold and gules with a fesse between three leopards' heads all countercoloured.

Party cheveronwise gules and gold with a crescent countercoloured. [CHAPMAN.<sup>1</sup>]

Party silver and sable with ermine tails countercoloured and a chief ermine with five lozenges gules.

Sable a leopard rampant with one head and two bodies. [COMBERTON.<sup>1</sup>]

Gules a unicorn rampant checkered silver and sable.

Party ermine and azure with a fesse countercoloured.

Gules three luces silver with an orle of crosslets fitchy silver. [LUCEY.<sup>1</sup>]

Party azure and silver bendwise indented with three pierced molets of gules in the azure cantel.

Silver two piles of gules crossed saltirewise between four fleurs de lys of gules.

Nine pieces gold and azure with four fleurs de lys of gold. [COTTES.<sup>1</sup>]

A bend quarterly gules and ermine in a field party gules and sable saltirewise.

<sup>1</sup> In a later hand.



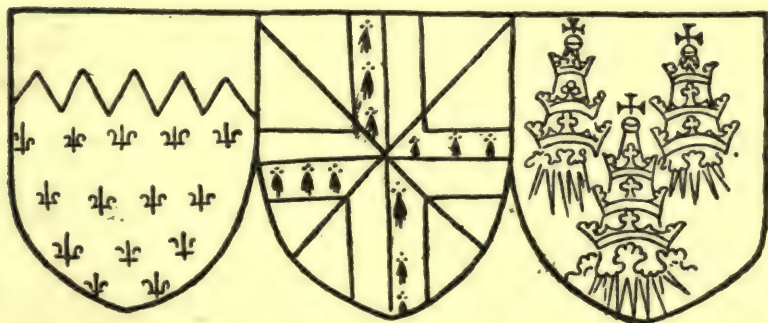
Party gules and azure with a two-headed eagle party silver and gold.



Gules a pale sable bezanty between six crescents ermine. *Les armys PYLCHARDE.*

Party gold and azure with a rampant leopard countercoloured. [STONNE.<sup>1</sup>]

Silver three piles sable with three golden rams' heads cut off at the neck in the chief. [YONGE.<sup>1</sup>]

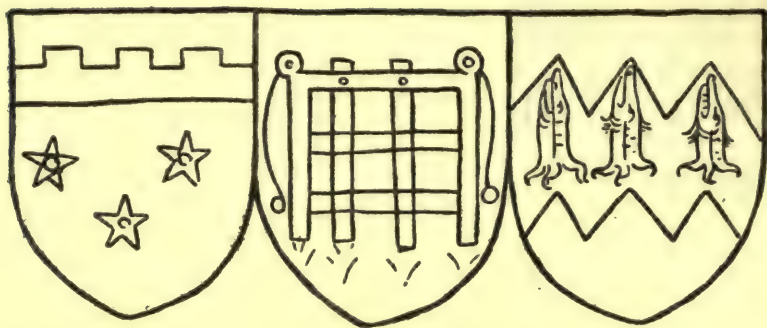


Gold flowered with azure and a chief azure indented.

Gyronny gules and sable with a cross gyronny of ermine and sable.

Azure three golden triple crowns of the pope each standing upon a cloud of gules with beams of gold. [DRAPERS' COMPANY.<sup>1</sup>]

<sup>1</sup> In a later hand.



Azure three pierced molets of gold and a chief gules with another chief battled silver. RYCHARD NORRYS.

Silver a portcullis sable.

Silver a dance sable with three golden lucas heads rased thereon.

France and England quarterly with an azure border with golden martlets.

Silver a lion with a forked tail party athwart gules and sable.

Party sable and gold bendwise indented with a millrind cross gold in the sable cantel.

Azure with cloudwaves of silver [five shown].

Silver three *crapawdys* [toads] of sable.

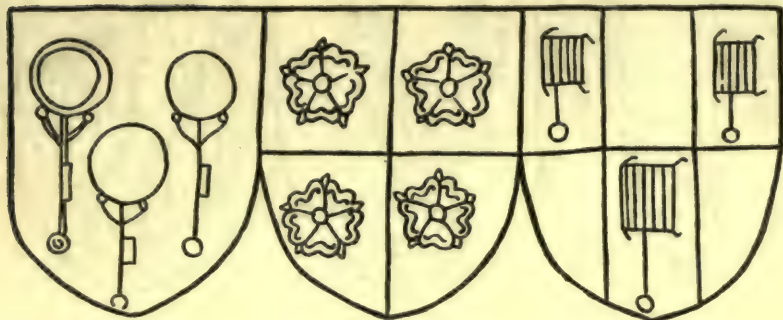
Nine pieces gold and azure with four pierced lozenges of gold.

ROBARDE PRYKKE.

Three figures of 6 [?] sable.

Azure three distaffs (or fishing floats) of silver.

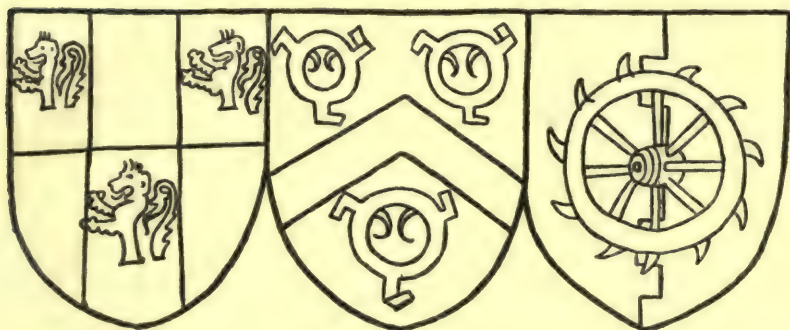
Party sable and silver cheveronwise with three crosslets fitchy countercoloured.



Gold three [uncertain charges] sable.

Quarterly silver and gules with four roses [countercoloured ?].

Six pieces azure and gold with three golden griddles. [GIRD-  
LERS' COMPANY.<sup>1</sup>]



Six pieces sable and silver with three demi-lions silver.

Silver a cheveron sable between three trivets sable.

Party silver and sable battled with a golden Catherine wheel  
over all.

<sup>1</sup> In a later hand.

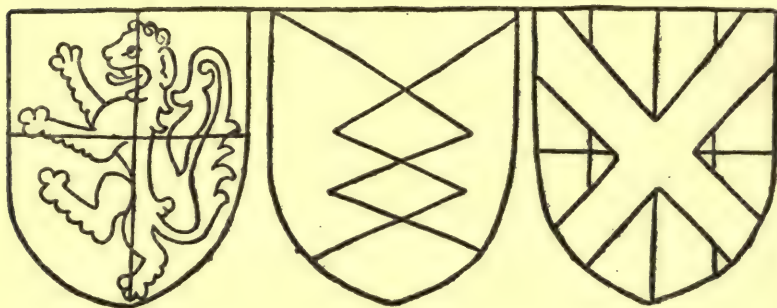




Six pieces azure and silver with *iiij synettys rowsand of sylvyr crownyd* [about their necks] and *chaynyd of gold dysmembryd w<sup>t</sup> goullys*. ADAM GOODALE *Serg<sup>t</sup> at Armes*, not so. . This coat is given later in an amended form.

*Sylvyr iiij roys of gowllys regardande*.<sup>1</sup> JOHN OSYN.

Party azure and gules bendwise a golden lion with a forked tail looking backward and holding a silver harp.



Quarterly sable and silver with a lion countercoloured.

Silver a pale indented azure.

Eight pieces sable and gules with a saltire over all. JOHN HALYS.

<sup>1</sup> The roes are looking backward. Note this early example of the heralds' floundering French, which has given *regardant* in modern armory the meaning of looking backward. *Rere regardant* is the more accurate translation of looking backward into the French of medieval blazonry, and as late as the grant of the Seymour augmentation in 1547 the English leopards are described in the redundant blazon of the grant as *regardant*.

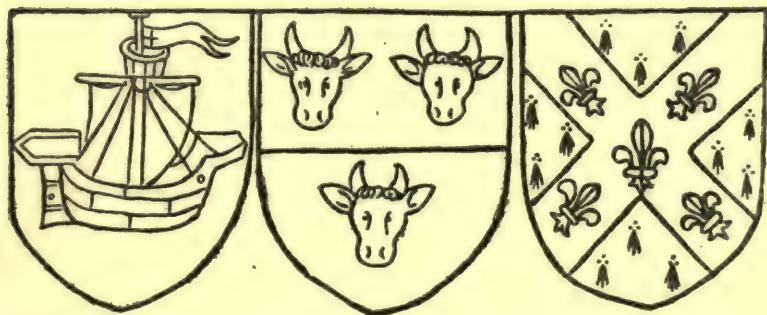


A fesse between six crosslets formy fitchy, the whole shield party athwart and countercoloured of silver and sable.

WYLYAM COTYNGHAM.

Silver a pale indented gules. HARRY HALLE.

Gules a chevron engrailed and three silver dolphins upright.



Gold a ship with mast, sail and pennon of sable.

Gold a chief gules with three bulls' heads countercoloured.

WYLYAM BULLE.

Ermine a saltire sable with five fleurs de lys of silver. WYLYAM BYLYNGEDON.

Azure three harts silver.

Party silver and sable nebuly.

Azure three ounces [or leopards after their kind] rampant silver.

Silver two bars gules with three cinqfoils in the chief.

WYLYAM DENTTON.

Gules a cheveron ermine between three golden portcullises.

[CLEMENT FYSCHOK.<sup>1</sup>]

Azure a scutcheon of silver with an orle of crosses formy of gold. SIR PYERSE de BERESYE.

Nine pieces ermine and silver with four millrinds or millstone turners of sable. [TURNER.<sup>1</sup>]

Silver a chief sable and a bull's head countercoloured.

Ermine a chief azure bezanty. HEMYNEFORDE.

Gules a lion checkered ermine and sable.

Ermine a cheveron sable with three chessrooks sable in the chief.

Party bendwise sable and gules with three crescents party sable and silver lying in the bend.

Ermine a chief indented azure with three trefoils ermine thereon.

Azure and gules party cheveronwise with a line of cloud or nebuly line *anewyd w' aseure* between three silver bulls' heads with golden horns.

JOHN WYLD *beryth sabyll a cheveron ermyne iij wykys of sylvyr.*

JOHN HEMYNGBOURGH *beryth ermyn a cheveron counterbatayld goulis iij torteys of the same yn the chefe.*

TOMAS PORTHELYNE *beryth sylvyr a cheveron goulis iij poppe bolles of wert dessendaunte* [that is to say, poppyheads with their stalks].

Gold three bars azure<sup>2</sup> powdered with fleurs de lys.<sup>3</sup>

Gules three hawks' bells of gold, the field sown with golden trefoils. OLEPHERNUS.

Azure a saltire engrailed gold with a double tressure flory gules over all. SIR DEGREWAUNT.

Gules three *ermytys bedys* of silver cut off at the neck, their cowls thrown back. ERMYTE.

Party gules and gold cheveronwise and battled with three lions countercoloured. WYWOLDE.

Sable a lion silver with three bastons of gules.

Party ermine and gules with a wave countercoloured.

Nine pieces silver and azure with four golden lions in the silver. STOKLEY.

<sup>1</sup> In a later hand.

<sup>2</sup> Probably for burelly.

<sup>3</sup> The fleurs de lys are demi fleurs de lys, each being drawn as issuing from the bar below it.



Sable a cheveron engrailed silver between three silver owls.

[HEWETT OF STAFFS.<sup>1</sup>]

Gold three bends gules and a chief . . . with another chief of silver charged with three fleurs de lys sable. NORMAN, draper [of London].<sup>1</sup>

Gules a cheveron silver and sable vairy between three pierced molets of silver. SIR JOHN STOCTON.

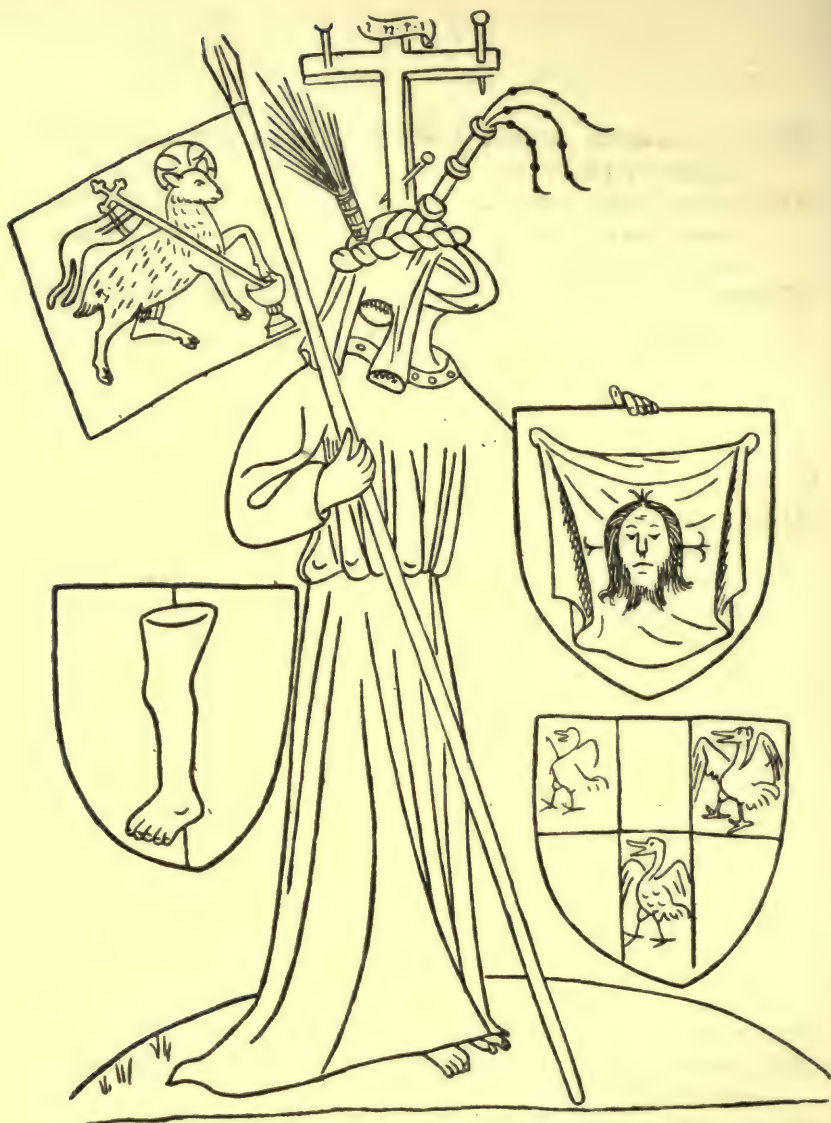
Here is a recipe for a hot unguent for the *Syetyka*, which is followed by another recipe against the same disease. This second recipe demands *an olde gose agandder* [goosey gander] within whose body is to be put *all the fleysch of a catte well brokyn*, with a *swyne foie wyth the klee on*, *wyrgyn wex*, *sewet*, honey, salt and other matters, which will render the dripping of the goose not only a medicine against the sciatica, but *a presyas oynement all so for the gowte*. This noble recipe was written to a king of England from the *unewersyte of Selaren* [Salerno].

Party gules and silver bendwise with a lion countercoloured.

Party sable and gold cheveronwise with two golden roses in the chief.

Azure three bellows of gold each with its silver *pype* towards the midst of the shield.

<sup>1</sup> In a later hand.



*The armys of oure lord Jesew cryst after the forme of the passyon.*

The shield in the hand is azure with the silver vernicle, the banner azure with a silver lamb, the cup and nimbus gold. On the skirt is written *This is made from godes cote*. The helm mantle made of the seamless coat is *rosset*, the crest gold, the wreath green.

The shields beside the figure of Christ are these :—

Party sable and gules with a man's leg of silver cut off at the thigh.

Six pieces gules and silver with *iiij* ostrye[bes] rowsyng in the gules. ADAM GOODALE, *sergaunt of armys*.

Azure a sun of gold. KYNGE OF ARRABY.

[Gold two snakes upright and wreathed together.<sup>1</sup>] ROY DE BERBERYE.

Azure three capital S's of gold. ROY DE JESSE.

Barry gold and sable of eight pieces with the green 'kränzelein' bend. DEWKE DE SAXSON.

Azure a cross gold between twelve golden fleurs de lys with the crucified figure of Christ, gules upon the cross. THE BYSCHOPPE RYGE.

Gold four lions sable. DEWKE DE HOLLONDE.

Lozengy silver and azure bendwise. DEWKE DE BAVARIE.

[Azure flowered with gold with a bend gules. DEWKE DE BURBUN.<sup>2</sup>]

Gules a fesse silver. DEWKE DE OSTRICHE [AUSTRIA].

<sup>1</sup> This shield is struck out, and at the foot of the page another is drawn as *the trewer*—gold two beasts with dragon heads and lions' fore feet, back to back, with neck and tails writhed together.

<sup>2</sup> Struck out.





*The armys of oure lorde drawe owte of the passyon.*

A shield with these arms is beside the figure :—

Sable with two silver flaunches and a silver sword point downward *anowryd* [adorned] w<sup>t</sup> gold pomell and bylite.

Azure three bulls' heads silver, the tongues gules. *The armys of ISRAHELL.*

Gold with roundels of gules and three serpents gliding sable. ROY DE EGIPCIE.

Azure three spears of gold bendwise each with pointed penons of gules. ROY DE CALDEORUN.

Gold four voided bars gules battled on both sides. ROY DE MASSYDONIE.

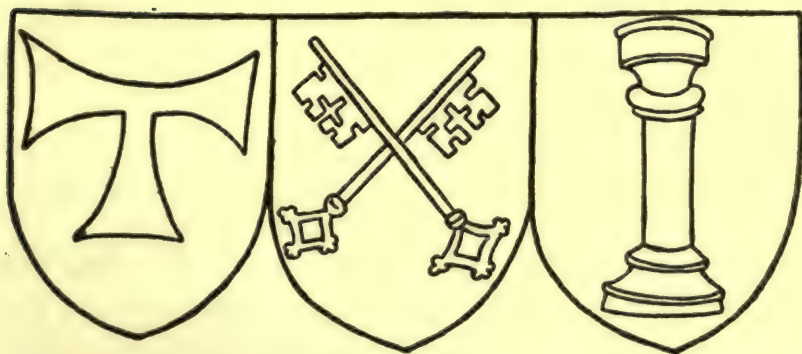
Gules a luce's or whale's head silver coming from the sinister side and crowned gold. ROY DE AFFERYKE.

Gold three green popinjays, one under the other with their wings rising. REX DE INDIA.

Azure a golden cloth hung over a golden rail which is cut off at both ends. IMPERATOR DE SILDACH.

Barry of eight pieces gold and gules battled and counterbattled. This is evidently meant for a like shield to that of the King of Macedonia, four shields before this, for on one of the golden bars is written *the feld sene thorowe* and *the feld* is said to be gules.

Azure three running griffons of silver *armyd w<sup>t</sup> old*. REX DE PERSYA.



Sable a T-cross of *sylvyr anewyd w<sup>t</sup> aseure*. SEYNT ANTONY *armys*.

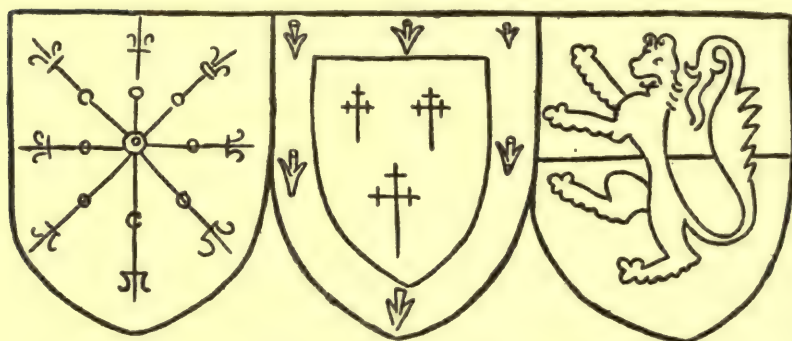
Gules two crossed keys of silver. SEYNT PETER POPE.

Gules a silver column—*domini papa [sic] de COLUMPNE* [Colonna] *Rome*.



Azure a golden cross potent fitchy. *SCANCTUS JEREOMIIS* [*sic*].  
Green with a silver eagle. *SANCTUS MAURICIUS*.

Azure a silver cross potent fitchy between four golden A's.  
*SANCTUS ALBYNUS Anglya*.



Azure a charboche of gold. *SANCTUS MARTIN Episcopus*.

Sable three crosslets fitchy of gold and a border gules with  
broad arrow heads silver. *SANCTUS SEBASTIANUS*.

Azure a chief gold with a lion gules over all. *SANCTUS  
REYNOLDUS myles*.

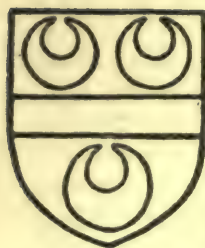
The remainder of the MS. is taken up with a roll of  
fifty-four picture shields of European potentates and nobles,  
most of them German.

[In the next volume of the *Ancestor* will appear a key and index of all names  
contained in this book of arms. A list of *errata* will be added, which is speci-  
ally needful as the earlier portion of the book was printed off before proof  
correction.]



## OUR OLDEST FAMILIES

### XI. THE OGLES



THE very ancient Northumbrian house of Ogle begins, in the account of them written by Roger Dodsworth of York in 1641, with 'a certain Humphrey, a very distinguished man who lived and flourished about the time of William the Conqueror.' By the time his labours came to be set forth in pedigree form Master Dodsworth's researches found that Humphrey's life could not fairly be extended to the Conqueror's time. But Master Dodsworth was 'the most humble and faithful servant' of 'the most illustrious hero Lord William Cavendish . . . Earl of Newcastle, and in the right of the most excellent heroine Lady Catherine his mother, Baron Ogle, Bertram of Bothale and Hephale,' and decency demanded that the pedigree of so great a lord should be carried to the famous date of 1066. Therefore a father must be found for the distinguished Humphrey, and the pedigree begins with one 'De Ogle, tempore Willelmi Conquestoris,' a pictured ancestor who, with the shield of Ogle upon his right arm, points his left hand to the line of descendants below him. No criticism can attack this father of the race, although his surname may be held unproven, for Humphrey must have sprung from human loins, although his father need not have been written 'of Ogle.'

Sir Henry Ogle, the author of the great chronicle of the family printed in 1902, is perhaps prepared to follow too far Dodsworth's method of extending the family pedigree by simple logic, for at the head of his prefatory sketch we read that 'it is evident that prior to the date on which documentary evidence exists, from which the descent of the family is deduced, some ancestor must have existed between the eighth and ninth centuries.' This cannot be denied, but the value of the statement is discounted when we remember that the humblest family may make the like truthful boast, and that after all 'we are a' Jock Thomson's bairns.'

Concerning the surname of Ogle little need be said. Sir Henry Ogle's disquisition concerning 'the race or personal name of Oghhul in the fifth century' is not to the point. For the Ogle family the facts should be simple enough, it being evident that they draw their name from their manor of Ogle, a place name which is probably one of the many northern place names which are compounds of *gill*, which signifies a ravine or chasm.

The story of the race of Ogle may be allowed to begin after all with Humphrey of Ogle, who although no companion or adversary of the Conqueror is found living with his foot on Northumbrian ground, and that ground the lands of Ogle. In an undated charter, which is probably of the first half or middle of the twelfth century, Walter Fitz William grants to Humphrey of 'Hoggel' the right to make his mill, and to have the multure or mill-rights of his own land. This deed was seen and copied by Dodsworth at Welbeck Abbey, and Dodsworth's good faith and the existence of the deed is attested by the fact that *multuram* is misread by him as *culturum*, and translated as the right of 'cultivation.' To another deed of the same Walter, made about the same date, Humphrey of Ogle is a witness with Gilbert his son.

In 1166, one hundred years after the Conquest, Walter fitz William, the king's baron of Northumberland, returns Gilbert of 'Hoggal' as one of his knights enfeoffed in the new feoffment (since 1135), and at this time Humphrey the father is presumably dead. Gilbert occurs in the pipe rolls in 1169 and 1170, and the same rolls give us in 1181 Robert of Oggil, who is said to have been his son. Legend credits this Robert with the taking of the baron of Rutherford in the wars with the Scots. Soon after this date several Ogles are found who are reckoned in the Ogle pedigrees as brothers of Robert. Of these Gilbert was fined half a mark for bringing a writ against his lord in 33 Hen. II. (1186-7), and is a witness to a deed c. 1209-16. His widow Agnes has a suit against Roger Ogle in 1221.

From a tangle of Ogles we draw Thomas of Ogle, who is found in the pipe rolls in 1219, 1220 and 1221. He is the chief of his house, and is returned in 20 Hen. III. as holding Ogle and half of Burradon. At present we can but guess at his parentage. Sir Henry Ogle is ready to make him son of one Richard Ogle, but this pedigree falls to pieces in handling. His reason-



ing seems to be as follows. Thomas of Ogle is witness to an undated charter with his younger brother Roger. In 40 Hen. III. Roger fitz Richard, as son of Richard of Ogle who died three years before, is plaintiff in an assize roll in a suit against William of Madle concerning a lease of lands in Riplington. Therefore Thomas is also son of Richard, being brother to Roger.

But in Roger the son of Richard we have evidently a second Roger, for being heir to his father in 40 Hen. III., he cannot be younger brother to Thomas, who left sons to succeed him. Thomas would seem to be heir to Gilbert, and may have been his son by Agnes, or more probably by an earlier wife. At the same time Agnes is pursuing Roger concerning lands in Burradon. Roger has given half a mark for a precipe against Thomas concerning lands also in Burradon, which he holds of Thomas by his deed. It may be then that Agnes, who has her dower in the Burradon lands held by Thomas the elder brother, is suing for her dower in the portion in which Thomas has given his younger brother a maintenance, for Thomas, we remind ourselves, is returned lord of half Burradon in 20 Hen. III.

Sir John of Ogle, son of Thomas, comes to establish the pedigree henceforward with deeds such as that by which (in 1295-6) he gives to his son Robert a ploughland in Ogle, describing himself as John, son of Thomas of Ogle. This Sir John is famous in border story, and a tale, fragrant with the true romance of the fourteenth century, tells how he entertained at Ogle castle Sir David Dunbar, a Scots champion who was wandering with a provocative fox-tail in his cap, and in an after-dinner argument slew his guest with a pole-axe as he sat at table. His seal in 1316 bears the fesse between three crescents, which are the arms of Ogle, a shield which his younger son John differences by taking away the fesse and powdering the field with crosslets.

Sir Robert, son of the hospitable John, was a stout warrior on the border, and in the Scots wars the name of Ogle rose. He had freewarren in his lands of Ogle and elsewhere in 1341, and for his good service in war a licence was given him to crenellate his house. In 1346 he was one of the leaders of those English who fought at Nevills Cross and carried King David prisoner to the Tower. Ogle himself took the brother of the Earl Douglas and other noble Scotsmen, and although



there can have been no such picking upon the Scotsmen as fell to those who took the glittering prisoners of Cressy, the house of Ogle was doubtless the better for certain ransoms.

Seven generations of Robert Ogles follow in direct line as heirs of Ogle. One was prisoner after the renowned fight of Otterburn. This Robert's mother was heir of the Bertrams, barons of Bothal, and Robert's youngest son John was given the Bertram name and arms and the Bertram castle of Bothal. The elder brother, an earnest advocate of primogeniture, hurried to Bothal as soon as the breath was out of his father, and coming to John's door at midnight, with two hundred men behind him, sieged him by the book with ladders and pavises and other apparatus of war. On the fourth day Bothal was carried by storm in despite of the entreaties of the justices of the king's peace. But the king's writ ran even in far Northumberland, and Robert Ogle, after a few months of possession, drew off his men towards Ogle. Of such unruly men it may at least be said that they ranged the border like mastiffs, and this Sir Robert distinguished himself by retaking the town of Wark from the Scots.

The first peer of parliament of the Ogle name was a Robert who in 1461 was summoned as a baron by Edward IV. Therefore it will be seen that he was a partisan of the white rose. He came safely through the wars and died in his bed in 1469. His son, the second lord, who bore the curious name of Ewyn, was at the battle of Stoke, and it is suggested that he died of his wounds taken therein. He married a daughter of Hilton of Hilton, concerning whom Sir Henry Ogle has the truly magnificent tale that the race sprang 'from a Saxon maiden confined in a tower on the banks of the Wear to protect her from a Danish chieftain, who however eventually married her.' The end of the legend seems weak, and we hope that Sir Henry is not bowdlerizing for us an attractive family scandal.

The fourth Lord Ogle was at Flodden with his men arrayed under his red crescent, to which field as the ballad hath it

Sir William Percy and Lord Ogle both came,  
And Sir William Gascoigne theyr cosyn was he.

For his doings on that day the Scots had revenge in the next generation, when the fifth lord was killed in fight on Peniel heugh. The barony was carried away by Katherine, the

surviving daughter of Cuthbert, the seventh lord. She was wife of Sir Charles Cavendish, and for her son William, baron of Ogle, first earl of Ogle, Duke of Newcastle, and a knight of the Garter, did Ralph Dodsworth make the great pedigree of Ogle in 1646. Two generations later the old barony of Ogle was lost amongst coheirs of the second duke, who died in 1691. Lord Howard de Walden is now the senior coheir.

From Ralph the third lord, who died in 1513, descended many cadet lines of Ogle, his fourth son, John Ogle of Kirkley, founding the family now represented by Newton Charles Ogle, of Kirkley and Ogle, whose grandfather bought from the Portland family the lands of the ancient barony of Ogle, which are thus in the hands of the heir male of the old house. A wall of the old castle still hangs over the farmhouse upon its site.

Chaloner Ogle, born in 1729, as a fourth son of the Kirkley house, entered the navy in 1742, and died senior admiral in 1816. He was an active officer, and although his ill luck kept him out of the fight of Ushant and gave him an ill place in Sir George Rodney's action at Gibraltar, he was a hawk to the French privateers, and had a long list of sea duels to his name. In March of 1816 the Prince Regent gave the old officer a patent of a baronetcy, and in August of the same year he died at his seat of Worthy in Hampshire.

Of his sons two died at sea as midshipmen. The third son, Sir Charles Ogle, was on the books of the *Resolution* four days after his baptism ! and lived to serve under Jervis, Parker and Nelson ; but his father's luck followed him, and his frigate, the *Unité*, was detached to a station off Cape St. Vincent before Lord Nelson's fleet came to Trafalgar Bay. He lived till 1858. Sir Charles's brother Thomas, a major of the Royal Fusiliers, was killed on the beach of Aboukir Bay, when landing under the guns of the fleet in which was his brother's frigate, the *Greyhound*. Alone amongst the old admiral sons James Ogle, the youngest, stayed at home, and died rector of Bishops Waltham. His son Edmund succeeded to the baronetcy as sixth baronet in 1885, and died a general in the army in 1887.

The general's second son, Sir Henry Asgill Ogle, seventh baronet, retired from the navy as a captain in 1897. He was in command of the naval brigade at the end of that disastrous

day of Majuba, and has been a deputy commissioner of the Western Pacific. More than this, he has occupied himself in his retirement with the making of a great chronicle of the name and house of Ogle, which he printed privately in 1902.

O. B.



## THE WESTBURY CUP

### AN ANCIENT SCANDAL

**T**HE churchwardens' accounts of the ancient town of Westbury in Wiltshire record that on 6 November, 1845,—

At this meeting the Rev. Stafford Brown mentioned his intention, with the concurrence of the churchwardens of Westbury, and the chapelwardens of Dilton, of applying the old communion plate belonging to Westbury towards the purchase of new plate for the use of the chapel at Dilton.

This resolution was accordingly carried out, and new lamps duly replaced the old ones. This was at the beginning of the church 'restoration' mania, when scores of sixteenth and seventeenth century chalices and patens found their way to the silversmiths and curiosity shops.

Whether the parson of Westbury had any especial spite or dislike to this particular vessel does not appear, or indeed whether he knew anything about its history, other than was notified on the piece itself, the probability however is that he did, for there was a brief note about this cup in the county history, which would hardly have been unknown to him. In any case, whether it went into the melting pot or the curiosity shop was all one to the Reverend Stafford Brown.

Fortunately the cup had the latter destination, and after some twenty years' oblivion it reappeared in the hands of a Brighton silversmith, from whom it passed to a London art dealer, and from the latter to the present owner.

The apparent 'uniqueness' of this cup and its oddity as a piece of church plate, together with the circumstantial tenor of an inscription upon it were obviously such as to excite curiosity and suggest research, and the writer consequently forthwith set about making the necessary inquiries.

First, however, as to the thing itself, as it is a standing cup with a loose detachable cover, it was to be presumed that it was given to the church to serve as a communion cup, with its paten, but the most cursory examination showed that it could not have been originally made for such a use.

The cup is a solidly made piece of silver plate, richly gilt both inside and out, in the form of an acorn, supported on a low moulded stem, with a central knop, and round the upper part of the cup is conspicuously engraved in cursive characters with sundry flourishes—

Given to the Church of Westbury by Collonel Wancklen and Mary Contes of Malbrou 1671.

and on the cover are the initials of the donors in large capital letters, T. W. & M. M.

Another singularity is the fact that the real date of the piece is not 1671 but 1585, as shown by the hall date and maker's marks conspicuously placed on it.

The cup therefore in its origin was evidently a piece of English Elizabethan table or sideboard plate, though at the first blush the writer had rushed to the conclusion that this unusual piece presented to a church in the reign of Charles II. by a cavalier colonel, must have been specially made, in its particular shape in allusion to the oak-tree adventure of the king at Boscobel, and indeed it is not unlikely that the well-known occurrence may have in some measure prompted the gift.

The conclusion in any case was that for special reasons, whatever they were, this piece, probably of the old Marlborough family plate, was selected by the donors for presentation, and the transmission of their names to posterity. Of this, however, more anon. Such moreover was the opinion of the supreme authority on old English plate, the late Mr. Wilfrid Cripps, who moreover, in the plenitude of his knowledge, informed the writer that he knew of another sixteenth or early seventeenth century acorn-shaped standing cup, preserved in a church in Leicestershire, almost identical in design as to the upper part, but different in the make of the stem, which was in the shape of an oak tree stem or branch. Clearly then this cup, originally one of the Wancklen-Marlboro preciosities, was selected by the colonel and the countess for presentation to Westbury church with the inscription newly engraved thereon, the work being regilt and reburnished at the same time.

But why did these people give it? What specially moved them to do so in 1671? How indeed could they have done so, seeing that the lady died in the previous year, 1670?



THE WESTBURY CUP.

*Hall Mark of 1885.*





These are mysteries to be solved. Doubtless thereby hangs a tale, probably a tangled skein, which may now never be fully unravelled.

The first thing the writer did by way of inquiry was to consult the county history, and he found that Hoare's *Wiltshire* was the book to be looked up, and under the heading of the Hundred of Westbury, he found the following note :—

James Ley, the third and last Earl of Marlborough, who died in 1665 was possessed of many manors in Westbury. By his will he appointed Thomas Wancklen, Esq., commonly called Colonel Wancklen, a trustee, and it was supposed that the same person married the widow of James Ley, Earl of Marlborough, for I find engraved on a silver chalice in the communion plate of Westbury—

‘The gift of Colonel Wancklen and Mary Countess of Marlboro’, 1671.’

There is however an important error in this statement, inasmuch as the lady in question was not the wife of the third earl, but his mother, she being the widow of Henry Ley, *second* Earl of Marlborough.

The next reference was to *Cokayne's Complete Peerage extinct and dormant*, and in vol. v. p. 25 occurs the following explicit information.—

Henry Ley Earl of Marlborough, b. before 1595, M.P. for Westbury 1614, for royal Cheshire 24 Aug. 1617. Sum. to Parl. v. p. in his father's barony as Lord Ley, taking his seat 2 March 1625–6, a month after his father's elevation to an Earldom, to which Earldom 3 years later he suc. (14 March 1628–9). He married 5 Nov. 1615, at Hadham Parva, Herts (m. London, he about 20, she about 18) Mary first da. of Sir Arthur Capel, of Hadham, aft<sup>d</sup> by Margaret dau. of John Lord Grey. He died 1 April, 1638. Will pr. 1638.

His widow (who was bapt<sup>d</sup> 20 March 1596 at Hadham Parva, m.<sup>1</sup> Thomas Wancklen (son of a smith) and d. 2 June 1670, being buried in a garden privately, but subsequently removed to Westbury, Wilts.

The next step was obviously to look up the Oxford scandal-monger's account of the matter, and in his well-known *Life and Times* (Oxford, 1872, vol. 2, p. 194) occurs the following information :—

1670 2 June the Countess of Marlborough, mother to the Earl that was killed in the sea fight, 1666, died. Buried by her second husband (Thomas Wanklyn, son of a smith) in her garden, between 2 boards under a turnip plot, because Mr. Ash, who was to enter upon her joynter, should not know it. About Michaelmas following she was taken up and buried by her husband at Westbury in the plaine Wiltshire.

<sup>1</sup> See Anthony A. Wood's life for an account of this marriage.

Obviously money was at the bottom of this business, and our old friend Antony might just as well have given us some clue to the exact workings of the filthy lucre in this case. As it is, two questions seem to arise. Firstly, was the cup, ostentatiously described as the joint gift of the husband and wife, although the latter was dead and buried in the turnip patch at the time, given to the church as a blind to make it supposed that the lady was still alive ? or was it presented as a penitential offering after the deportation of the defunct lady's body to consecrated ground ? The former supposition seems the more probable, but it is a problem which will perhaps now never be solved.

J. C. ROBINSON.



A COPY  
OF AN ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT OF  
SIR FRANCIS BARNHAM  
FORMERLY OF BOUGHTON MONCHENSEA  
KNIGHT  
Now in the Possession of his Descendant  
SIR THOMAS RIDER, KNIGHT<sup>1</sup>

CONSIDERINGE with my selfe, how much honor is justly due to the memorye of my good father, and how much profitt may arise from this fayre example of his life, I have thought fitt to gather together such peeces thereof, as were within myne owne knowledge, or delivered mee by credible reporte, that his posterity, knowinge somewhate of his vertue and fortune, may peradventure make use of both, to their owne good.

SIR MARTIN BARNEHAM was the eldest sonne of FRANCIS BARNHAM a good merchaunte and an alderman of London, whoe was the eldest sonne of Steven Barnham, Esq., groome of the Privie Chamber to Kinge Henry the Eighth, whose father and grandfather, being men of fayre estates, were killed at Bosworth field on the side of Richard the Third, and their estates, or the greatest parte thereof, becominge a prey to the contrary faction ;

STEVEN BARNHAM, my great grandfather, being left bare of friends and fortune, was put into the tuition and education of Battell Abbeye in Sussex, to which house his auncestors had beene greate benefactors, and from thence pferred to Cardinall Wolsey, and from him to Kinge Henry the Eighth, whoe gave him fayre lands, and other gifts of good value ; But his first wife (whoe was of the family of the Blowotts in

<sup>1</sup> Sir Thomas Rider of Boughton Monchelsea, knight, was Sheriff of Kent in 1754. His father, Sir Barnham Rider, who died in 1728, was son and heir of Philadelphia, the daughter and heir of the last of the Barnham baronets of Boughton Monchelsea, a baronetcy created 15 August 1663.

Hamshire and mother to Francis, and Thomas, and one daughter) being dead, his second wife, whome he married in his later age meerely for love (which humor had beene all his life p<sup>r</sup>dominant in him), being without children, did so governe him, and misgoverne his estate, as made him att his death little more than even w<sup>th</sup> the world, so that Francis, his eldest sonne, had but a small portion from him where withall to rayse a fortune, and Thomas, his brother, lesse than hee.<sup>1</sup>

OUR NAME as we have it by tradition, strengthened with probable circumstances, and some good records (which I have heard some of my friends say they have seene) was first gentilized, or at least advanced, by SIR WALTER BARNHAM, a Baron of the Exchequer in the time of RICHARD the SECOND, and soe continued in a flowrishing estate (at a place called Barnham in Suffolke not far from Thetford, where divers descents of them lye now buried) till the time of Henry the Seventh, all which I have received from my grandmother, father, and uncles, whoe spake it with much confidence, as being delivered to them, by their freinds of the former age, and the truth of it assured by divers records, however it is not that which I will binde on as an infallible truth, because I my self have not seene that which may soe absolutly assure it, and because I for myne owne parte care not to fetch a pedegree farther then from the certaine memory of a grandfather that was rich

<sup>1</sup> The will of this Stephen Barnham hardly carries out his descendant's description of him. He is there seen, not as an impoverished courtier, but as a Hampshire yeoman and prosperous innkeeper. Describing himself as 'Stephen Barnam of Southwyke, in the countie of Southampton, yeoman,' he gives his wife Joan his dwelling house called the 'Crowne,' with certain copyholds and 5*l.* yearly for life. He gives her six kine and six hogs and two horses of the best, six featherbeds with bedsteads and testers, the hangings of 'Winchester chamber,' 'the parlour' and 'the best chamber,' one of his best goblets, the nut with the cover of silver gilt and six silver spoons, six wine quart pots, six wine pints, six beer quarts and six beer pints 'with all other smale measirs pottes for wyne and bere.' He gave his daughters Dorothy, Agnes and Elizabeth 10*l.* each. He gave to his bastard daughter Mary 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and to his bastard daughter Dorothy 10*l.*, to be paid at their ages of discretion. He also names Maude, his wife's cousin, Dorothy Cowper, and Annys Frybyn, Richard Bycklye, John Hensly and Michael Clerk. He made Henry Byckly his overseer, and gave the residue of his goods to his sons Francis and Thomas Barnam, his executors. This will, dated 28 Oct. 1550, was proved 9 Jan. 1551 [P.C.C. 1 *Bucke*] by the executors. Sir Francis Barnham's caution in accepting the descent of his family from the baron of the Exchequer was probably a reasonable one. [O.B.]



and honest, and a father that was vertuous and wise ; so then to come neerer home, to indubitable truthes, FRANCIS BARNHAM, my grandfather, when hee grew towards man's age, his fathers estate beinge then in some reasonable condicion, was by him put into the course of the courte in the way of the green cloath, but, findinge his fathers estate to runne apace to ruine, and the houshold service to be a slow way of p<sup>r</sup>ferment, within lesse than two yeeres hee declined that, and bound himselfe apprentice to a good merchaunte in London, with whome he served out his yeeres, and soe inabled him selfe, in the understandinge of that profession ; as that afterwards, he proved a very good manager for himselfe, and his name had a very extraordinary reputation in those forraigne partes, where he traded, as well as a greate and constante credit at home. Shortly after he was out of his apprentishippe he married ALICE BRADBINGE,<sup>1</sup> a gentlewoman decended of auncient and good family in Sussex, but aboute that time extinct in the heires males, and the estate in a maner wholly spent, or transferred to daughters. My grandfather beinge then married, and possest of all that which hee was to have from his father (who was dead not long before) found himselfe with his owne estate, and his wife's smale pertion, scarce worth 1,000*l*, but yet goinge honestly, carefully, and cheerefully on in his way, it pleased God so to blesse him, as that at the time of his death, which was in the 1576<sup>th</sup> year of our Lord and 61<sup>st</sup> of his age, he left behinde him lands to the valew then of 1,000*l* a yeare, and a greate personall estate, which yet by some ill fortunes at sea, and bad debtors, was a good deale lessened some yeares before his death : His eldest sonne, my father, was borne in the year 1549, and till he was neere sixteene yeares of age, was brought upp in severall schools in London, and I have heard himself say, was divers times carried by his mother (whoe even in those times of persecution was a constant professor of the true religion) to that reverend man, and blessed martyr, MR. BRADFORD,<sup>2</sup> when he lay in prison, from whome he received many pious and profitable instructions. From London schooles he went to ALBAN HALL in Oxford, and spent about three yeares there, under the tutorage of Mr. Aurther Atee ; one that was a wise man, as well as a good scholler, under whose education, hee proffited well in the studies of

<sup>1</sup> More correctly Bradbridge.

<sup>2</sup> John Bradford, prebendary of St. Paul's, burnt at Smithfield in 1555.



philosophie and humanitie, and would surely have become a generall good scholler had he continued in that course ; but his father, whoe in his whole life had the ill fortune not to make a true judgment of the worth and vertue of that sonne, beinge maynely carried, by the sway of his affection, to the love and likinge of his second brother, tooke him from Oxford at the time of his best advantage, and put him even almost as a servaunt, to one Mr. Barker, a lawyer (an honest and religious man, but of meane condition in himselfe, and little reputation in his proffession), under him to learne the rudiments of the lawe, and a lowely way of life, wherein my grandfather (takinge as it seemeth a wronge levell of my fathers spiritt) sought to humble him, and to checque those risinge thoughts, which the condition of an elder brother (by this tyme become heire to a reasonable good fortune) might begett in him, and though in some natures this dejection way might peradventure have produced some ill effects, yet in my father, who was all humility and meecknesse, it brought foorth nothinge but an obedient yeeldinge to his fathers will, and a cheerefull applyinge himselfe to the directions and instructions of M<sup>r</sup> Barker, though he were neither kinde nor scarce civill to him ; but my grandfather, soone fyndinge that his sonne was soe farre from a stubborne opposinge of his will, as that he submitted himselfe with all dutifullnesse even to this meane course, gatheringe from this experiment a better opinion of him, and beinge seconded in those thoughts by the inclination of his wife (who was always to hir eldest sonne a very lovinge and indulgent mother) after some fewe months he took him out of this course and placed him in Graies Inne ; where he continued about five yeeres, and gained in that time soe much knowledge of the lawes of the lande as was afterwards very usefull to him in the defence of his owne estate, and enabled him to doe much good in his country by his advise and effectuall endeavours of peace among his neighboures, in which he labored constantly even to his dying day, and as I have heard him say with soe good successe as that, in all his life time, he never but once fayled to effect the peace he endeavored to make. At Graies Inne his conversation and familiarity was with the men of best esteeme, with some of whome he then made a friendship that continued duringe their lives, as with old M<sup>r</sup> Honiwood, Sir Thomas Peyton, Sir Thomas Bodley, S<sup>r</sup> Will<sup>m</sup> Wade, and such others, and with the first two his

freindshipp, beganne at Graies Inne, begat afterwards a neere alliance; havinge thus spent some yeeres in Graies Inne, when he was aboute 25 yeeres old, his parents thought fitt to seeke out a wife for him, and my grandfather havinge some few yeeres before bought the two mannors of Bilsington in Kent, he was desirous to match him into that country where the estate lay, which hee meant to assure him, and by the motion of some friends, but principaly by my LORD WOOTONS meanes (who had beene very familiar with my father at Oxford) there was a treatie of mariage sett one foote betwixt him and the daughter of M<sup>r</sup> ROB<sup>t</sup> RUDSTON,<sup>1</sup> cousin germaine to my LORD WOOTTON, which after some pawses, by reason of the parents disagreeinge about portion, was in the end accomplished, to the great joy of the younge couple, whoe had settled on each other a very deere affection, and to the greate contentment and comfort of their parents, for though my grandfather BARNHAM had with his daughter in law but a thousand markes portion, yet her modest and vertuous education and the alliance shee brought, gave him great satisfaction, and my grandfather RUDSTON joyed so much in the hopefulnessse or rather assured good prooffe of his sonne in lawe, as that he preferred him (as I have often heard them both say) before two other husbands then offered his daughter, though both of them were gentlemen of auntient descent in their country, and of farre better estates then could be hoped for with my father. In the year 1572, and the month of August, my father was married at Boughton Malherb, upon the desire and at the charge of M<sup>r</sup> THOMAS WOOTTON, whoe was doubly my mothers uncle, and alwaies most kinde and indulgent to hir, and the mariage was sollemnized with the presence of almost all the freinds and kindred on both sides, and S<sup>r</sup> John Wootton, who was then a younge courtiour, brought a masque thither of gentlemen of qualitie. Within foure dayes after his marriage, my father came to live with my grandfather RUDSTON, and spent about foure yeares in his house, with greate contentment to all, which could not have beene but that his judgment and temper kept him from interfeeringe with the passionatnesse of his father in lawe, whoe was a brave gentle-

<sup>1</sup> Sir Martin Barnham married (i.) Ursula dau. of Robert Rudston of Boughton Monchelsea, esquire, by whom he had two sons, and (ii.) Judith dau. of Sir Martin Calthorpe of London, knight, by whom he had five sons and five daughters. He died 12 Dec. 1610, ætat. 63. [M.I. at Hollingbourn.]



man, and of a very lovinge disposition, but so furiously cholericke as required a greate deale of discretion to avoyd the incounter of that humor. Havving thus lived happily with his father in lawe some foure yeares, Hollingboorne Parsonage (which was then a lease of neere forty yeeres in beinge) was offered him, which his frugality, during the time he lived without charge in the house of his father in law, and some little helps from his good mother, enabled him to buy at the rate of £1,100, and there shortly after he settled himselfe, and continued in it till his dyinge day, which was 34 yeares after (without any intermission savinge some few months after myne owne mothers death), keepinge all that time a bountifull, and in his latter yeeres a brave house full of his owne children, most of whome were then growen to ripenesse of age, and by his friends often visited, to whome he gave alwayes a very harty and cheerfull welcome, with such entertainment as though it were noble and plentifull, yet was it not streyned to that height of excesse, or curiositie, which might make them unwillinge to come often unto him. Soone after his beinge settled at Hollingbourn, my grandfather BARNHAM died, and left him no more estate but both the Bilsingtons, which beinge then lett at low rates, and charged with 300<sup>l</sup> a yeere to his mother, were for the present but of smale vawle. That which made my grandfather deale so hardley with him was partly a partiall indulgence to his younger sonnes, to whome he left great estates, and partly, a confidence that my father would have no children, for at that time my mother had neither child, nor great belly, to give any hope of hir fruitfullnesse; but within a yeere after, notwithstandinge these p'sures of his estate he went cheerfully on, and by his owne judgment, and my mothers providence, did so well manage that smale estate as made him able to buy some meadow pasture and woodlands in Hollingbourne, which together with the commodity of the parsonage made his dwellinge very convenient. But whilst he was goinge on in this comfortable course of life it pleased God to lay a very heavy affliction upon him by the death of my excellent mother, who died in the yeere 1579 in childbed of a sonne, whoe lived but ten days after hir, which, as it brake the comforte, so also the course of his life; for presently after hir death he gave up house, let out the parsonage of Hollingbourne and his lands there and lived, sometymes with his own mother, and sometymes with his



father in lawe; but fyndinge this but an unsettled lyfe, and beinge then but a younge man, and father but of one child lyving, nature, reason, and the advise of his freindes, perswaded him to a second marriage which, some eight months after my mothers death, he accomplished with the daughter of ALDERMAN CALTHORP, afterward Lord Maior of London; whoe was a very loving good natured gentleman, and extracted of an auntient and noble family in Northfolke; whose wife was an Heath, great aunt to BOB<sup>r</sup> HEATH, now Attorney Generall to his Majestie. With this second wife my father had a present portion of 800*l*, assurance of 400*l* more at his fathers death, and good hopes of a greater fortune by the advantage of his affection, which made him very indulgent to hir, and by the condition of his sonnes in whome he was eyther not happy, or not well satisfied. But yet those strong motives of complyinge with his second mariage could not so prevaile uppon my fathers goodnesse and justice, as that he would setle any of the lands left him by his father uppon his second issue, but resolvinge to leave them intire to his first sonne, the hopes of his after children rested in the lease and lands which he had in Hollingbourne, and in God his future blessinge, which so multiplied uppon him, as that at his death he left 500*l*<sup>s</sup> a yeare of his owne purchase amonge his younger sonnes, gave fayre portions to foure daughters, and left me bysides both the Bilssingtons, a faire howse newly built at Hollingbourne, and an hundred pounds a yeere lands to it.

Not longe before his second mariage there hapned a passage betweene his mother and him, worth the relatinge, as beinge a lively picture of hir goodnesse to him, and his dutifullnesse to hir. The court-lodge of Bilssington was made in joynture to my grandmother BARNHAM, and after my grandfather's death leased by hir to my father, at the rent of 300*l*<sup>s</sup> a yeere for the terme of hir life, by which lease some smale benefitt accrued to my father in p<sup>s</sup>ent, and after the expiration of some old leases it was like to be of a better vawew. There was afterwards a treaty of mariage betweene my grandmother and SIR JOHN RAMSEY, a very rich alderman of London, which treaty was almost concluded uppon such termes as were very advantagious to my grandmother. But the old knight, findinge in the pursute of this match that my grandmothers joynture was leased out to hir prejudice, insisted

manely upon the callinge in of that lease, pretendinge that he would make hir house at Bilsington habitable, live in it most part of the sommers, and have hir children and his friends with him. But the truth was that his ayme in getting in of my fathers lease was only to improve my grandmothers joynture to the full valew, though without that shee havinge, besides hir 300*l* a year, a very good personall estate. But he, pressinge hard for the takinge in of hir lease, and there beinge a full agreement in all other conditions, my grandmother acquainted my father with SIR JOHN RAMSEYES desire and made hir owne to him, that he would surrender his lease and gave some reason to perswade him to it ; to which my father made answeere in such sort as might have beene full satisfaction had not the importunity of a lovinge mother prevailed against all the reason a dutifull sonne could urge ; so that the conclusion was that my father promised hir, and appointed a day to deliver in his lease, with which she acquainted Sir JOHN RAMSEY, and desired him to be present when the lease was to be surrendered to hir. My father kept his time, and the covetous old knight fayled not, and asoone as he saw my grandmother possest of the lease by my fathers deliveringe thereof into hir hands, he told hir that now the mariage between them should with all speed be consumated, and named a speedye day for it. Nay, sayeth my grandmother to him, good Sir John be not soe hasty, except it be to appoint your weddinge day with some other wife, for on mee I assure you you must not reckon, for I shall never thinke my selfe happily bestowed upon a husband that setteth soe smale a valew on mee, as you have done in making this little improvement of my joynture (for that I knowe was indeede your ayme) a necessary condition of your match with mee. But it hath fallen out well to give me true satisfaction, the one of your nature, which surely is set soe upon covetousness, as would have given me but smale comfort in you, the other of my sonnes intire and good affection to me, which made him comply with my desires, though to his owne prejudice, for which I blesse him, and in retribution of my love doe here give him backe his lease againe wishinge it were of much better valew then it is, that so it might make a full expression of my love to him, and my just acknowledgment of his lovinge and dutifull carriage to me. And so S<sup>r</sup> John Ramsey and shee parted, which true storie, though it relate principally to my grand-



mothers goodnesse, yet my father hath soe greate a share in it, as maketh it I thinke not unfitt for this discourse.

Beinge thus settled in propertie and present possession for matter of command of both the Bilsingtons, which beinge of those manors that are called lordshipps of Rumney Marshe, did thereby give my father a greate interest in the command of that country, he applied himselfe with so much care and diligence in that businesse, as that within few yeeres he became as it were their oracle, so that the choise of officers, directing of worke for their saftie against the sea, and whatsoever else belonged to the government of that country rested principally in his hands, and was carried with soe much judgment and integretie as even to this day, which is almost twentie yeeres after his death, any opinion or rule that he gave in bussinesse of the Mersh serveth full for a precedent in the like case. His custome was to goe to the Priory of Bilsington almost every Whitsuntide duringe the time that he was owner of those landes and most tymes he called with him my mother in lawe and some of his children, soe that havinge there a full family of his owne, divers of his friends, the officers of the Mersh, and his tenannts, cominge daily to him, his beinge there was like a summers Christmas in regard of the fullnesse of his company and greatnesse of his expence, which yett was noe great charge to him, because his tenannts never fayled to present him with such good materialls of housekeepinge as that season of the yeere affoorded, which he requited with familiar and kinde usage friendly discourse, and advising them aboute their owne particular affayres, and above all with a gentle hand in the lettinge of his lands, soe that I thinke never any landlord had more power of free tenants then he had. Shortley after his second mariage he was plunged into the trouble and charge of a greate and dangerous sute, for the Courtlodge of Bilsington, the best of his two manors there, for this mannor beinge purchased by my grandfather of the Lord Cheyney, whoe sold other lands to severall lords and gentlemen of the valew of at least 20,000<sup>l</sup><sup>s</sup> a yeere, soe greate an estate hanging by the thread of one title gave an edge to all such as could make the least colour of title to quarell that estate; their least hope being to gett some good composition for strengthening by their assurances the title of lands bought (as was pretended) at unvalueable rates, and defective in assurances. The first that apeared in this great sute was SIR



JOHN PERROT, then a Privie Counsellor, and in greate favour with QUEENE ELIZABETH, whose eldest sonne, SIR THOMAS PERROT, was borne of the sister, or aunt, to the Lord CHEYNEY,<sup>1</sup> and soe made title to that estate as heire generall; which clayme, though in itselfe it was very weak and unvalidious, yet being countenanced by great persons animated by the hope of havinge great shares either in the recovery of those lands or the composition for them, it was followed with soe great violence, and seconded with soe greate power, as gave the purchasers enough to doe to maynetayne a just, lawfull, and equitable title. Among them that stooode in the breach at this assault my father was one of the most forward; two third parts of his estate resting upon that title; and havinge after some little time given such prooff of his judgment and diligence, as made almost all his fellow purchasers cast anchor in his faithfullnesse and abilitie he was reputed the great champion of the side. S<sup>r</sup> John Perrot takinge notice thereof, thought it would be a great advantage if he could worke my father off from the assistance of the cause, towards the effectinge whereof he thought a private discourse with him, fitted to the occasion, would be most forcible, and thereupon sent to him in a civill respective manner to intreate his coming to him; my father obeyed his desires by a speedy repayinge unto him; when he was come, after a very courteous salutation, and respectfull usage, S<sup>r</sup> John began with him on this manner. M<sup>r</sup> BARNHAM, I know well what right my sonne hath to the LORD CHEYNEYS lands, and I know well how much your judgment and active-nesse strengtheneth his adversaries side. I cannot thinke that you are thus earnest against my sonne from any other motive than the care of defendinge your owne estate which (if you will) shall be fortified by the best assurance my sonnes title canne give you, for which nothings shall be required at your hands but that you will become a looker on in this sute, without contributing any help to either side; and yf you shall thinke this offer worth your imbracing, advise with your Counsell, and your assurances shall be bettered by my sonne

<sup>1</sup> Sir Henry Cheyne, knight, summoned in 1572 as Lord Cheyne of Toddington, died s.p. in 1587, having wasted his estate. His three half-sisters, daughters of the first marriage of his father, Sir Thomas Cheyne of Sheppey, K.G., were his coheirs. Anne Cheyne, the third of these, was the first wife of Sir John Perrot, the lord deputy of Ireland, and mother of Sir Thomas Perrot his heir. Sir John Perrot, who was reckoned a bastard son of Henry VIII., died in 1592.

accordinge to the best of their directions. Although this unexpected proposition were such a surprise to my father as might well have distracted his thoughts soe farre as to have kept him from a present answer to SIR JOHN PERROT, yet recollectinge himselfe, after a little pawse, he gave him this answere. That he held himselfe much bound to his honor for offeringe him that which he thought a favour, but for his owne parte he could not acknowledge it soe, because he was confident that the title he had to those lands which his father had bought of the Lord Cheyney was as good as law and equitie could make it, and should therefore be rather prejudiced then strenghtned by any adition of assurance, soe that beinge thus fully satisfied in his owne title, and consequently in that of all his fellow purchasers in pointe of their legall and consionable right he could not with his judgment make any use of his offered favour, nor with his reputation deserte a side that had trusted him soe much and did still relye soe much on him. SIR JOHN PERROT beinge netled with this answere sayde to him in an angry manner : well then, seeinge you will not be an indifferent man betweene my selfe and sonne and our adversaries, wee will both repute you as our greatest enemy and expect our prosecution accordingly, and so leavinge him suddenly without soe much as a civill farwell theire partinge was as full of unkindnesse as their first meetinge was of complement and fayre respect ; and suddenly after, Sir John Perrot made good his word, for layinge aside all the other purchasers, as if he made a peace, or at least a truce with them, all the batteries were made against my father alone, and soe continued, till SIR JOHN PERROT's disgrace first, and soone after his death (both which fell out within a short time), gave him a little cessation from those troubles, but it was not long before other men, farre greater and more powerfull than he, undertooke that suite against the whole body of the purchasers, whoe still relyed uppon my father as their cheife champion, and in conclusion though those troubles lasted, duringe the tyme of my father's life and beyond it, yett still the purchasers made good their titles without any the least appearance of danger, of all which violent and unjust prosecutions, that had their agitation in his life tyme, my father made a true collection, by way of an historicall narration, in which it appeared that scarce any one of those greate persons, or other that had a hannd in that unjust vexation, scaped



the Divine punnishment, by some remarkeable misfortune for soe unlawfull and dishonorable an attempt : and since my fathers death I have made a true and just addition of some great persons to that unfortunate list. But to returne to other particulars of that part of my fathers life in which this greate suite beganne, about that time he was made a Justice of the Peace ; in which service, so necessary for the good and saftie of the common wealth ! he was as active, as able, takinge greate paynes therein even untill the day of his death, savinge three smale tymes of intermission, wherein he was put out of the comission ; twice by the unjust displeasure of greate lords, whoe meant him a disgrace therein, and last of all by his owne desire to free his life from the trouble of that service, but after his two first puttings out of commission he was putt in againe within a few months, not by his owne, or his freinds suite, but by the meanes of those lords that putt him out ; whoe groweing to beleive better of his merrit, and to be sensible of the wronge they had done him, and in him that parte of the county where he lived, retracted their error and made themselves the meanes of his beinge putt agayne into comission, and when afterwards my father was putt out of the comission of the peace at his owne suite, and yett kept in the comission of the subsidie, my LORD CHANCELLER EGERTON meetinge one day with my Lord of LEICESTER, whome he knew to be my father's noble freind, told him that it was not fitt that my father should exercise the power that the comission of subsidie gave him, except he, that was every way soe able for it, would take paines in the commission of the peace ; which hee desired my Lord of Leichestre to intimate unto him, which my lord did accordingly, and seconded it so stronglie with his owne reasons and perswasions, as made my father willinge to reenter upon that service, in which from that time he continued to his dyinge day ; and executed it all his time with so much moderation and soe peacefull a spirrite, as that I heard him say a little before his death, that of many hundreds, whoe in that longe tyme of his service came to him to require the peace or good behaviour of their neighbours, he bound over but two only, his perswasions of peace prevailing with all the rest against the spirit of contention which brought them to him uppon that occasion. Neither was he in those dayes lesse fortunate in his owne affayres, then he was to his owne country and neighboures in his care of their good ; for



as it pleased God to blesse him with many children, soe alsoe with a dayly groweth of his reputation, and increase of his estate to which hee made a good addition by divers smale purchases.

In the yeere 1598 he was made high Sheriffe of Kent, and was in the bill for it divers yeares before ; but as longe as the suite against the purchasers of the Lord Cheyneys lands was eagerly followed, those greate men that prosecuted that greate suite kept him from beinge sheriff, as fearinge least the power of that office might in his hands have been some disadvantage to their side. Those duties and directions which are required from an high sheriff, in the substantiall and sere-monious parte of his office, were so well performed by him as that they served for precedents to many of those that succeeded him ; soe that the under sheriffe he made choyse of (whoe was one that before that time had not executed that office), by the reputation of his choyse, was made under sheriff by 7 or 8 of the next high sheriffs, and the security which my father required from him was conceived to be taken with so much judgment, and fitt caution, as that the high sheriffes of some other cuntryes (as well as those of his owne) sent some yeares after to my father for his directions on that behalfe, and made them the precedents by which they secured themselves against the greate danger which did commonly attend the high sheriffs by the negligent ignorance or falseness of their under sheriffs if it were not prevented by a truly wisdom. As for the formall and shewing part of his office, he carried it in a high line of fitnessse and decency, without any touch of lownesse or vanity ; his entertainment at the Assizes, his number of servants, and his gifts to the judges, being all of them fitly proportioned. That yeare of his shrivalty was accompanied with many good fortunes considerable in his life, for hee then married his eldest daughter to the eldest sonne of his auntiente and worthey freind, M<sup>r</sup> ROBERT HONYWOOD, which match in regard of the quality of his sonne in lawe, and his fayre hopes of very good estate, was full of comforte and reputation, and shortly after he married me to the daughter of M<sup>r</sup> SAMSON LENNARD<sup>1</sup> and the LADY DACRE, in which match, his goodnesse to me wards, sought rather to give me a wife that might bringe mee a noble

<sup>1</sup> There is a picture of this Samson Lennard in the *Ancestor*, vol. 5.

alliance, and promise the happinesse of a good wife (as beinge borne of a mother that abounded as much in worth and vertue as in honor) then to enriche himselfe, or his other children by so greate a portion as it is probable he might have had in divers places, if that had beene his cheifest ayme in my marriage. About that time alsoe he bought a purchase of good valew, though his mother whoe kept a good parte of his estate from him was then alive, soe that one yeare gave him the reputation of beinge high sheriffe (which in those dayes sunke not so lowe as since it hath done), of marrying his two eldest children to much comfort and happinesse, and of givinge a good adition to his estate by a great purchase. In those progresses of good fortune his life went hapily on, his estate and reputation groweing with his age, which may justly be reckoned amongst his greatest temporall blessings, because it brought w<sup>th</sup> it cheerefullnesse and comfort to the latter parte of his lyfe; which to most men is but a malancholly disconted beinge, either through waywordnesse of age, infirmity of body, or deficiency of fortune. Within lesse than two yeares after my marriage I came to live in my fathers house, though I had then by covenant one yeeres beinge more with my father in lawe, whoe though he kept a very honorable house, and lived in all respects in soe brave a fassion as might make the beinge there very delightfull, especially to me, whoe had always from all hands a very lovinge and noble treatment, yett the happinesse I promised myselfe in the daily comfort of my fathers kinde and familiar usage, and in his advise and instructions (which were always given me in a most indulgent manner) made me hasten my cominge to live with him a yeare before my time. My brother and sister Honywood then lived in the howse and spent some yeares there with all possible comfort to all parties, soe that livinge in a full and well agreeinge family, I can reckon noe parte of my life, spent with more contentment then it was, which must be chiefly ascribed to that goodnesse and sweetnesse of my fathers disposition and fashion which, like the operations of fayre and cleere weather, made all that lived with him lively and cherefull.

1603. Aboute this tyme KINGE JAMES came to this crowne, to whom QUEENE ELIZABETH, by hir constantly sparinge hand of all sorts of honor, left greate power of satisfaction and rewards in that kind, of which among others KNIGHTHOOD was



most pursued as beinge that of which soe many men, were then fitly capable. The kinge havinge beene very bountifull of that honor in his journey from SCOTLAND to LONDON, moste parte of the gentlemen of the other parts of England were desirous to dresse themselves in that generall fashion; and though on some particuler men by the king's favour, or the mediation of some greate men, that honor was freely bestowed, yett generally it was purchased att greate rates, as at three, four, and five hundred pounds, accordinge to the circomstances of precedencye, or grace, with which it was accompanied. SIR JOHN GRAY, my noble freind and neere allye, findinge the way of knightinge by favour somewhat slacke, and not alwaies certaine, out of his affection to mee, at the kings first cominge to LONDON, treated with a Scotchman, an acquaintance of his, and drove a bargaine that for 80*l* and some courtesyes which he should doe him, my father and my selfe should be knighted, and gave me present knowledg thereof that it might speedily be effected, with which I made my father instantly acquainted, and told him that though I doubted not but to procure both our knighthoods without money by the power of some greater freinds I had in court, yet consideringe the obligation to them and the tyme that would be lost before it could be certainly effected, I thought it would be a better way to make a speedy end of it at so smale a charge rather then to linger it out at uncertaintyes at such a time as every man made haste to crowd at the new play of knighting heere. My father made this answer, that havinge by God's blessinge an estate fitt enough for knighthood, and havinge managed those offices of credite which a country gentleman was capable of, he should not be unwillinge to take that honor upon him, if he might have it in such a fashion as that himselfe might hold it an honor, but said he yf I pay for my knighthood I shall never be called SIR MARTIN but that I shall blush for shame to thinke how I came by it; yf therefore it canot be had freely I am resolved to content myselfe with my present condition, and for my wife (saied he merrily) I will buy her a new gowne instead of a ladyshipp, this is my resolution for myselfe, and that which I thinke fittest for you. Findinge him thus resolved, I gave over that way, and made meanes to my noble freind, my LORD of PEMBROOKE, to procure my father a free knighthoode, which hee redilie undertooke, and apointed him a day to attend for it at GREENWICH, but that



morninge there came some newes out of Scotland that put the Kinge soe out of humor as made that time unfitt for it, and instantly after it was published that the kinge would make noe more knights till the time of his Crownation as resolvinge to honor that day with a greate proportion of that honor, on which day my father, by the favour of my LORD PEMBROOKE (*sic*), had the honor of knighthoode freely bestowed uppon him, and was ranked before three-fourth parts of that days numerous knightinge. Shortly after this my father married his second daughter to M<sup>r</sup> AUGUSTINE STEEUARD, a gentleman of a fayre descent and good estate, to whome he gave a good portion, and two yeeres diet by way of contract, and some yeeres more out of his bounty and kindnesse, which allwaies exprest itselfe in a most cheerfull wellcome to his children and grandchildren, as beinge that which was beneficiall to them, and comfortable to himselfe, who beinge now freed from the trouble and charge of suits, and his estate greatly increased by the death of his mother, who died in the yeere 1604, enjoyed the quiete of his own howse, the comfort of his children, and the plentifulnesse of his estate with all possible happiness.

And here it shall not be amisse to recite one perticuler that hath relation to that greate and longe continued cause, uppon the purchasers of the LORD CHEYNEYES lands, because it meeteth with this time and conduceth much to my father's publicke reputation and honor. In the yeere 1608, the Parliement then sittinge, there was a bill brought into the Howse of Commons intituled, an Act for the securing of the Lands bought of the late LORD CHEYNEY to the severall purchasers thereof, the purporte of this Acte was to give a finall securitie by Acte of Parliement to such of the purchasers as would buy there peace by compoundinge with some that pretended to a title to those lands (whoe were named in the Bill), at the rate (as I remember) of halfe a yeeres valew of their estates. This bill was brought in to the howse of Commons by the directions of the LORD ARUNDELL of Ward[our], in favour of a kinseman of his that pretended a title to those lands, and by his meanes was well befreinded in the Howse, and some of the purchasers, eyther out of want of judgment or weaknesse of feare, or base playinge booty on that side, complied with it, soe that it passed readily to a comittee, which accordinge to the manner of those private bills was chosen of men for the most parte very favourably affected to it. In the

meane tyme some other of the purchasers that stooode upright in the cause gave my father notice of those proceedings and desired him with all earnestnesse to take that busines fully & wholly into his owne hands, uppon whose care and judgment they would confidently relye ; wherein they proceeded with my father, as the state of ROME was wont to doe when in tyme of greate danger, they made a Dictator to whome alone they gave an absolute power to doe what hee thought best, with these woords in his comission provided, *ne quid detrimenti respublica capiat*, my father willingly obeyed their desire by taking that business into his serious consideration but beinge by some important business inforced to be in the country at the time appointed for the sittinge of that committee, he wrote a letter and directed it to his good freind SIR RICHARD SMIGHT (who was then a Parliament man), which letter made a large expression of his opinion against the offered Acte of Parliament, and of the reasons that did leade him to that opinion. The committee beinge sett and the busines beganne, many speeches were made in favour of the Bill, and many reasons inforced, and this chiefly That it was that which moste of the purchasers desired, which some of them were present confirmed by their owne avowed consent, and others that were absent were named as willinge consentors to the bill, and amonge them my father for one, yea marry said SIR FRANCIS BACON (whoe was made for the Bill) his consent will be a greate authority amongst us, beinge a gentleman of soe great wisdom and reputation, &c., and therefore let us be assured that it hath his approbation and noe one thinge will more availe it : which he spake to prepare a reverent opinion of my fathers consent which he did indeed beleewe had beene gotten. Upon this SIR DUDLEY DIGGES, whoe had the letter in his hands, and was desired to produce it when he see his time, stooode upp, and bestowinge many woords of honor uppon my father, concluded with SIR FRANCIS BACON that his opinion might uppon good reason bee of greate esteeme amongst them because he was well knowen to be a wise and a good man, and to understand more of the business of that greate suite for CHENEY's lands then any man else did. The generall expectation beinge thus rayased my fathers letter was read, which makinge a summary relation of the goodnesse of their title, and the violence and injustnesse of their many vexations, which yett had brought noe manner of danger to



the purchasers; delivered in the conclusion his opinion absolutely against any adition of strength to a title (though it were by Act of Parliament) which had already the best assurance that law and equitie could give it, and gave some reasons to strengthen that opinion; which reasons beinge argued at the comittee and found very weightie, the bill beinge put to the question was clerely cast, and soe reported to the Howse, where it ranne the same fortune; which is a remarkable consideration, that the power of those reasons which his letter conteyned, cominge from soe good an authority, was able to overthrow a business soe well laid, soe farre advanced and strenghtened with soe great freinds, and as thinges sorted to his reputation, soe was his life made happy in other comforts, especially in that of constant health; not interrupted with any, so much as ordinnari sallies of sicknesse; for from his age of 14 till hee was above 60 he never had but one sicknesse, and that neither longe nor extreame. But aboute one yeare and halfe before his death, which happened in the 63<sup>rd</sup> yeare of his age, he beganne to feele some declination of his former health, which continued till the time of his death, with some little weakness and distempers which by often appearinge and attacking him in such manner only as might well be reckoned amongst the blessings of his life; for it gave him almost a certaine foreknowledg and fayer warning of his death, without any such torment of sicknesse as myght make his life greivous unto him, of which he made a right and true christaine use, by preparinge himselfe for the life to come, to w<sup>ch</sup> he was summoned aboute the beginninge of December 1610 by a sicknesse somewhat sharpe at the first, but groweing every day more violent till the day of his death, which was on the 10th of that month, which sicknesse he bare with a manly courage and christaine patience, and that time which he could make use of by any relaxation of his extreamity he spent in prayers, and in grave fatherly and wise admonitions and perswasions of love and peace to his wife and children; havinge his memory and speech perfect till very few houres before his death, and soe the happinesse that accompanied his life was crowned with the perfection of all happinesse, in the blessednesse of his death. Presently after his death his will and other disposalls of his estate beinge looked into, there appeared some rocks of danger, like enough to have wreacked the peace of his family, but it pleased God that his effectuall



perswasions of peace and unity to his wife and children prevailed soe with them against all reasons of their perticuler benefitt or advantage, as that, within a short time such a peace was settled amongst all, as hath continued inviolate unto this day. His funerall were performed (accordinge to his owne directions) without any serimonous pompe but with soe greate a confluence of gentlemen of the best and second qualitie, and of all other sorts of people that dwelt neere him, as gave a full expression of the generall respect and love that was borne him; for a more particular testimony whereof his body was carried to the church by six knights and gentlemen of prime quality, who gladly offered themselves to doe that honour to his ashes, and against the day of his buriall his tenannts sent in above 700 fowles of all sorts as their last tribute of love and thankfullnesse to his memory and meritt; and of that parte of his funerall sermon made by Doctor Boyse which represented his worth and vetrue even in a very transcendinge degree, it was yett sayed by some that knewe and could judge him well, that those prayes might fittely be compared to a picture that was like, but not so well as the life, to which censure this weake expression and imperfect collection of myne may justly be more liable.

[While going through and sorting a very considerable number of old deeds, letters and other documents, I came across the above biography written in a neat clerk's hand in a sort of copy book. Among the above mentioned letters are two dated in 1760 from Sir Thomas Rider to Thomas Barrett Lennard, Lord Dacre. In one of these he mentions that he is giving to the latter a picture of Margaret Fynes, Lady Dacre, who married in the sixteenth century Samson Lennard, one of Lord Dacre's ancestor's, and this letter contains an extract from the above life of Sir Francis Barnham.

There is no doubt that he subsequently had the whole of this biography copied for Lord Dacre.]

T. BARRETT LENNARD.

## NOTES FROM THE NETHERLANDS

## I. THE NOBILITY OF THE NETHERLANDS

**B**EFORE entering upon the subject of the nobility of the Netherlands let us be assured of our terminology. Confusion begins at home as well as abroad when we would speak of our country. 'The Netherlands' we say in our common speech, or it may be 'Holland,' and either phrase will go well enough in these days in which the art of conversation is as little in esteem and as rarely practised as alchemy or the swaddling of mummies.

Yet let it be understood that 'Holland' in the mouth of the historian should signify nothing more than the province of that name, and not the whole land;<sup>1</sup> a distinction which should always be kept when one would speak of the period before the setting up of the present monarchy, and still more when one is dealing with those middle ages when the provinces differed one from another in government and in race.

When in these notes I shall have occasion to speak of the Netherlands (de Nederlanden) it will be seen that I keep that word for our northern kingdom, giving the kingdom of Belgium its own name. After this piece of needful pedantry, I will approach the subject of the first of my notes, which shall treat of the nobility of the Netherlands.

All *noblesse* having been abolished by the revolution of 1795, which made an end of the old *régime* and of the government of the 'stadhouders,' King William I. revived it after the reassertion of the liberty of the Netherlands and the institution of constitutional monarchy.

One of the articles of the constitution of the kingdom recites that the king gives *titres de noblesse*. These are in practice given by the king, either of his own motion,<sup>2</sup> which now rarely happens,<sup>3</sup> or upon the petition of the person desirous of being received into the nobility.

<sup>1</sup> Napoleon gave his sanction to the popular and inaccurate usage when, under the French dominion, a 'kingdom of Holland' was created.

<sup>2</sup> As when the sovereign gives a decoration *motu proprio*.

<sup>3</sup> A few personal titles of which we shall speak later should go into this category.



These petitions are examined by a council called the *Hooge Raad van Adel*, which issues favourable or unfavourable reports thereon and submits the nominations to the king.

There are many grounds upon which the postulant may rest his claim to being received as a noble. He may be (i.) brought up in the *noblesse*, in which case he must prove that he comes of a family which has held for many generations a position in the magistrature of a town. He may prove (ii.) that his family belonged to the recognized nobility of the Netherlands in an earlier period. He may ask for incorporation (iii.) when his family is of a foreign and noble stock. There are other pleas, but the three aforementioned are the most frequent. Titles may be personal or hereditary. Personal titles are very rare, an example being found in the Queen's consort, who on his marriage with the Queen was made Prince of the Netherlands.

Hereditary titles in their order are prince, count, baron, knight (*ridder*) and *jonkheer*.

Princely titles are few. The Duke of Wellington was made Prince of Waterloo by King William I. after his victory, but since the separation of the Netherlands and Belgium, the north has left this title and the payment of any accruing emoluments to the care of the southern kingdom. The princes of the blood, did any such exist, would bear the title of Princes of the Netherlands, and the Prince Consort is now the sole possessor of this rank.

The title of *ridder* is enjoyed by few, and there are few families bearing that of count—the barons and *jonkheeren* make the bulk of our titled classes. With this short sketch of the position of our nobility I will direct the reader to a little book of the first value to the student of such matters.<sup>1</sup>

At the beginning of 1903 a few genealogists<sup>2</sup> put forward the *Nederlands' Adelsboek*.<sup>3</sup> This little book follows the model of the *Gotha* and the English peerages. The noble families are given in alphabetical order. A notice of their origin and earlier ancestors is followed by an account of all living members of the family. The edition of 1903 includes

<sup>1</sup> In a later article I shall speak of the different works existing upon the nobility of the Netherlands.

<sup>2</sup> MM. Bijleveld, Baron Creutz, Jhr. Wittert van Hoogland, Bloys van Treslong Prins, Jhr. de Savornin Lohman, Jhr. Hora Siccama.

Published by Stockum, at the Hague.



about half of our noble houses, and the volume of 1904 will deal with the other half. A new edition will follow every year. The book is prettily produced and has a portrait of the president of the supreme council of the nobility, Baron Schimelpenninck van der Oye.

In the volume for 1903 I find these following families of English and Scottish origin, with the notices of their origin, which having been carefully compiled deserve the attention and the corrections, if need be, of genealogists.

#### CLIFFORD

From Normandy. This family is said to begin with Puntius Clifford, who went with William the Conqueror to England. The Netherlands branch descends from George Clifford, who came to Amsterdam between 1634 and 1640.

#### LOUDON

From Scotland. The lineage begins with Alexander Loudon, who came to the island of Java in 1811 with the English fleet.

#### MACKAY

From Scotland. Begins with Odo Mackay, who had wide lands in Caithness and Sutherland in 1499. Donald Mackay was created Lord Reay by King James I. in 1628, which title still belongs to the head of the house.

#### □ MELORT

From England. Only the lineage in the Netherlands is given, beginning with Andreas Melort, who died in 1757.

#### MELVILL VAN CARNBEE

From Scotland. The family begins with Richard de Melvill, named in 1296. His son Robert acquired the barony of Carnbee in Fife. Sir Andrew Melvill of Carnbee was knighted by Charles II.

#### VAN PESTEL

From England. The family begins with Thomas Pestel, 'pasteur de la cour de Henri VIII.'

## QUARLES

From Scotland. Begins with William Quarles, lord of the barony of Quarles, who came in 1420 from Scotland to Northamptonshire, and afterwards married Catharine Ufford, of the family of the Earls of Suffolk. One branch bears the name of Quarles van Ufford and the other of Quarles de Quarles. These last should have adopted the name after the extinction of the Quarles family, barons of Quarles in England. [*Sic. Ed.*]

On the appearance of the second volume I shall extract for the readers of the *Ancestor* the families there to be found of English origin. I purpose moreover to deal with certain English families dwelling in the Netherlands, who are not amongst the nobles, and with the families from the Netherlands now established in England, such as the Bentincks and the Keppels.

May I say that I shall willingly receive questions from the readers of the *Ancestor* upon subjects of genealogical interest concerning the Netherlands. Where I can aid them myself I will do so, and in any case I shall endeavour to direct them to persons who can help them in their inquiries and researches. For myself I shall reserve the right to put questions in my turn. Let me give a hostage for my good intentions by asking the first question. In the *Ancestor* (vii. 252) I find mention of Thomas de Furnival, lord of Sheffield, at the end of the thirteenth century.

In a charter of 18 January 1225, now amongst the royal archives at the Hague, the lord Theodoricus of Wassenare<sup>1</sup> is granted in fee by the Count of Holland the land 'quam acquisivi a filio magistri Rogeri de Fornival.'

Has this Master Roger de Fornival any kinship with the house of the Furnivals of Sheffield? As his name indicates, this Fornival who owned lands in Holland was a stranger to the country.

H. G. A. OBREEN.

GAND, BELGIQUE.

<sup>1</sup> I have published in 1902 a volume upon the family of Wassenæer, one of the oldest in Holland.

## HERALDS' COLLEGE AND PRESCRIPTION

## IV

HAVING now considered the views of some of the earlier Heralds, let us see what one of the earliest text-books has to say. The *Book of St. Albans*<sup>1</sup> contains much curious information on our subject.

Merke ye wele theys questionys here now folowyng :

Bot now to a question I will procede, and that is thys : Whethyr th'armys of the grauntyng of a prynce or of other lordys ar better or of sych dignyte as armys of a manis [man's] proper auctorite take, when that it is leefull [lawful] to everi nobullman to take to hym armys at his plesure. For the wiche question it is to be know that iiij maner of wyse [ways] we have armys.

The first maner of wyse, we have owre awne armis, the wiche we beer of owre fadyr or of owre modyr or of owre predycessoris, the wych maner of beryng is comune and famus [i.e. well known], in the wych I will not stonde long, for the maner is best provyt.

The secunde maner, we have armys by owre merittys, as verey playnly it apperith by the addicion of th'armys of Fraunce to th'armys of Englonde, getyn by that moost nobull man prynce Edwarde, the firste getyn sone of kyng Edwarde the thride, that tyme kyng of Englonde, after the takyng of kyng John of Fraunce in the batell of Peyters. The wiche certan addicion was leful and rightwysli doon ; and on the saame maner of whyse myght a poore archer have take a prynce, or sum nobull lorde, and so th'armys of that prysoner, by hym so take, rightwisly he may put to hym and to his hayris.

On the thride maner of whise, whe have armys the wiche we beere by the grauntyng of a prynce or of sum other lordys.

And ye most know that thoos armys the wych we have of the grawntyng of a prynce or of a lorde resayve no question why that he berith thoos same ; for whi, the prynce wyll not [suffer] that sich a question be askyt, whi he gave to any man sych an armys, as it is playn in the lawe of nature and civyll. For that same that pleses ther prynce has the strength of law, bot if [i.e. unless] any man bare thoos armys afore ; for that thyng the wiche is myne, with a rightwys tityll, withowte deservyng may not be take fro me, ner the prynce may not do hit rightwysly.

The faurith [fourth] maner of whise, we may have thoos armys the wiche we take on owre awne popur auctorite, as in theys days opynly we se how many poore men, by thyr grace, favoure, laboure or deservyng, ar made nobuls. . . . And of theys men, mony by theyr awne autorite have take armys, to be borne to theym and to ther hayris, of whom it nedys not here to reherse the namys. Nevertheless, armys that be so takyn they may lefully [lawfully] and freely beer ;

<sup>1</sup> It is now generally admitted that the Heraldic part of the *Book of St. Albans* is translated from Nicholas Upton.



bot yit they be not of so grete dignyte and autorite as thoos armys the wich ar grauntyt day by day by the autorite of a prince or of a lorde. Yet armys bi a mannys propur auctirote taken, if an other man have not borne theym afore, be of strength enogh.

And it is the opynyon of moni men that an herrod [herald] of armis may gyve armys. Bot I say, if any sych armys be borne, by any herrod gyvyn, that thoos armys be of no more auctorite then thoos armys the which be take by a mannys awne auctorite.<sup>1</sup>

It will be seen that the author divides arms into four classes, in a descending scale of 'dignyte and autorite.'

1. Arms borne by descent.
2. Arms borne by conquest.
3. Arms granted by a prince or lord.
4. Arms assumed by the bearer.

The writer is doubtful as to the power of a herald to grant arms, but on the whole seems to think that it can be done.

The passage, it must be remembered, was written when heraldry was still a living thing, before the foundation of the college, and probably before the appointment of the first Garter.<sup>2</sup>

Not only did men assume arms of their own 'propur auctorite,' but having got them, they looked upon them as 'estates of inheritance' (as Mr. Phillimore and 'X' would put it) with consequential rights of assignment or conveyance by deed or will. It is not to be expected that many of these documents should be preserved, being private and unregistered muniments. There are however a few originals known, and copies of a considerable number, mostly made by heralds. I have not noticed in any of these cases that the herald made any protest against this assertion of right.

I propose to deal with these private assignments and with the private grants by 'prynces or sum other lordys' together, and as before in chronological order. Most of them are well known, and several of them have been printed, but it will be useful to collect them here, and will save the trouble of reference to other books.

The earliest in point of date is recorded in the Scrope and Grosvenor controversy.

<sup>1</sup> *The Third Part of the Boke of St. Albans, printed from the original edition in 1486*; London, T. Cadell; no date.

<sup>2</sup> See *Ancestor*, i. 87. Upton's treatise is supposed to have been written in 1421 or 1422; the *Book* was published in 1486; the first Garter was appointed in 1446.

The prior of Gisburgh deposed that in his church might be found the arms of Scrope in a glass window, azure, with a bend gold with a small lioncel purpure at the top of the bend, which lioncel was granted to one of the Scropes by the Earl of Lincoln, for term of the life of the said Scrope.<sup>1</sup>

Henry de Lacy, the last Earl of Lincoln of that family, died in 1311, and his grant must therefore have been very early in the fourteenth century, if indeed not late thirteenth century. His arms were gold with a purple lion; they were adopted as part of the arms of Lincoln's Inn, where they appear in a canton.

1364. A tous yceaux qe cestes lettres verrunt ou orront, Thomas le fitz Mounsieur Johan de Heronyll, chivaler, Salutz en Dieux. Sachiez moy avoir don et graunte a Roger de Wyrley un esquechoun d'armes queill j'avoy par descent apres la morte Johan moun frere; c'este a savoir, l'esquchon de sable ou deux leouns passaunz de argent, coronez et unglez de or, ou un floure deliz de azure denz le piez: Avoir et tenir a dit Roger et sez heirs a touz jours. Et nous et nous [*sic*] heirs l'avandit esquechon a dit Roger et sez heirs en contre totes gentz garraunt. En tesmoignaunce des q' choses, a cestes escriptes ay meys moun seal, par yceaux tesmoignes . . . Escriptes a Westbromwyche, le Mardy prochain avant la Chandelure, l'an de Reigne le Roy Edward tierce puyz Conqueste trent utisme.<sup>2</sup>

Here we see that Sir John de Heronyll grants a coat which descended to him from his brother, using the proper conveying terms, 'give and grant,' and also the common form of general warranty against all men.

1375, April 5. Sir William de Aton *père*, in the presence of the Sire de Percy, challenged Sir Robert de Bointon for these arms: Gold with a cross of sable and five bulls' heads [*testes de boef*] of silver on the cross. The matter was referred to the judgment of Lord Percy, who awarded the arms to Sir William de Aton, *come chief des armes entiers et droit heriter dicelles*. Sir William thereupon granted to Sir Robert and his heirs for ever the right to use the challenged arms without impeachment by Sir William or his heirs. The parties exchanged indentures to this effect.<sup>3</sup>

The interesting point here is that Aton, having obtained a judgment or declaration of his rights from a private arbitrator,

<sup>1</sup> *Scrope and Grosvenor Roll*, ii. 278.

<sup>2</sup> Harl. MSS. 1116, fo. 2; 4630, fo. 17.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* 1178, fo. 44; *Yorkshire Arch. Journal*, xii. 263.



grants a licence to Bointon and his heirs to use the challenged arms.

1378. A tous ceulx que cestes lettres veront et orront, nous, Hughe de Calveleghe, chivaler, John de Burley, chivaler, John Devereux, chivaler, Urian de Stapelton, chivaler, et Rauffe de Statum, esq., Salus en Dieu. Com il y a en certaine place devant les Conestable et Marshall, parentre Mons<sup>r</sup> John de Massy de Tatton, poursuyvant [plaintiff], et Mons<sup>r</sup> John de Massy de Potington, defendant, pour les armes—Quarterles d'or et de gueles a un lion passant argent en le premir quater de gueles ; et le dict plee soit continue tant que les ditz parties avoient plede, juspres a jour paremptorie de porter les evidences de l'un parte et l'autre, a prover leur entent, selon ceo que a chascun part appartient le quel des ditz averoit melljour droit aux ditz armes. Surquy nous, pour bonnes consideracions, et aussi pour eschuer les grandes damages que porroit advenir a cause du dite ple, et debat que porroit surdre si remede ne fuit mis par mediators entre les ditz parties, avons trete entre eulx, tant que les ditz parties sont consentes par leur fathes [? faites] d'estre a nostre regard ; Sur quoy pour bon deliberacion et advis des nobles et sages chivalers du reaulme, avons agarde a Mons<sup>r</sup> John de Massye de Potington, defendant, de porter les armes que Tho. Massy son aieul jadis porta, c'estassavoir,—d'or et de gules quarterles, a trois fleurs-de-lys d'argent en les quaters de gueles ; et Mons<sup>r</sup>. John Massy de Tatton, pursuyvant, les armes—quarterles, a trois scalops d'argent en les quartiers de gueles. Et aultre ceo, [nous] avons agarde que nulle de les ditz parties porteront les armes que fuerunt en debate, en nulle aultre maniere forsque en ceste manier come nous avons ordeigne entre eulx. En testmoignance du quel chose, nous avons mis nous seaux. Donne a Glouster, le 14<sup>e</sup> jour de Novembre, l'an du Reygne nostre S<sup>r</sup> le Roy Richard 2<sup>d</sup>. puis le Conqueste, 2 me.<sup>1</sup>

Here we have a very full account of a dispute between two members of the ancient Cheshire family of Massey. John of Tatton had complained to the constable and marshal that John of Potington was using his arms. The parties had pleaded, and a day was fixed for taking evidence. Thereupon, to avoid expense and further dispute, the two Masseys submitted to the arbitration of four knights and one esquire, and bound themselves by deed to observe the award. The arbitrators consulted certain noble and wise knights of the realm, and decided that neither of the claimants should bear the challenged arms ; to John of Potington they awarded the arms borne by his grandfather, while for John of Tatton they appear to have devised an entirely new difference.

1391. A tous ceux que ceste presente lettre verront ou orront, Thomas Grendale de Fenton, cousin et heir a John Beaumeys, jadis de Sautre, Salutz in Dieu. Come les armes d'auncestrie du dit Johane apres le jour de son moriant soient par loy et droit d'heritage a moy eschaiez, come a son prochein heir de son lynchage, Sachetz moy l'avant dit Thomas avoir donnee et grauntee par icestes les

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MSS. 1178, fo. 44b ; 1424, fo. 98 ; 1507, fo. 201.



entiers avantdites armes ou leur appartenauntz a Will<sup>m</sup> Moigne, chivaler ; queles armes cestascavoir sont d'argent oue une crois d'asure ou cinque garbes d'or en le crois ; a avoir et tenir touz lez avantdites armes oue leur appartenauntz au dit Mons<sup>r</sup> Will<sup>m</sup> et a ces heirs et assignes a tous jours. En tesmoignance de quele chose a cestez presentes lettres jay mys mon sael. Donne a Sautre, le vint-seconde jour de November, l'an du regne le Roy Richard seconde quinzisme.<sup>1</sup>

In this case we again have a conveyance, pure and simple. Thomas Grendale has inherited certain arms from John Beaumeys, which he gives and grants to Sir William Moigne, his heirs *and assigns*. The use of the word assigns should be specially noted ; it seems to imply that Moigne may in turn convey the arms to whom he pleases without any interference by Grendale.

1397. A toutz ceux ycestes lettres verront ou orront, Johan de Whellesbrough, salutz en Dieu. Sachetz comme Thomas Purefey eit la reversion de manners de Fenney Drayton et Whellesbrough en la Counte de Leicestre oue les apurtenances, moi, le dit Johan aver done et graunte par icest au dit Thomas Purefey et ses heyres et en mesme le manere, mes arms oue les appurtenances ey entierment come moy ou mes ancesters avoions u ; a aver et tener les armes oue les appurtenances subdit a dit Thomas, ces heires et ces assignes, come desuis est dit, a tous jours, sans impeachment de mes heires . . . Et jeo oblige moi et mes heires a garanter lez ditz arms oue les appurtenances au dit Thomas Purefey, cez heires et cez assignes, a tous jours. Et en tesmoignance de quels choses a cestes lettres jeo ay mise mon seale des arms subditz, cestes tesmoignes, Mons. Johan de Clinton, Mons. W<sup>m</sup> de Astley, chivalers, . . . et autres. Donne a Fenny Drayton subditz, en la feste de Saint Jake l'Apostle, l'an le reign du Roy Richard le seconde puis le conquest le vintisme primer.<sup>2</sup>

Here again is an ordinary conveyance, and as in the last case, the grant is to the heirs and assigns ; but there is the addition that the grantor *and his heirs* will warrant to the grantee, *his heirs and assigns*.

By a deed dated 12 March 1404, William Haywode of Strathfieldsay, esq., conveyed to John Fromond, his heirs and assigns, the manor of Haywode in Strathfieldsay, together with a coat of arms.

'which arms appertain to the lands and tenements aforesaid, and which arms I have used and borne before this time by reason of the right to the lands and tenements aforesaid' ; and he releases and quitclaims the lands and the arms, 'so that I, . . . my heirs and assigns, cannot have or claim any right, title, or claim thereto in time to come.'<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MS. 1178, fo. 42d.

<sup>2</sup> Mus Brit., Add. MS. 6297, fo. 218.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. Add. Ch. 36,987. See also *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, 1891, p. 323, where the document will be found in full, with some notes by Dr. W. de Gray Birch.

This does not differ materially from the previous examples, save in the curious recital that Haywode's title to the arms was by right of ownership of the manor of Haywode. It would be interesting to trace the earlier history of the manor.

1404. A tous ceulx qui ces lettres verront ou orront, Johan Tochet, Sire d'Audeley, salus. Savoir vous faisons que nous per consideration que nos eschiers et bienamez Johan Macworth et Thomas Macworth son frere sont estraitz de et vaillants gens, et aussi pour le bon service que leurs ancestres ont fait a noz ancestres nous voudrions leement fere que purroit honurer et avancer leurs estats, si avons en avancement et honnour des estatz des ditz Johan et Thomas leur donne parcelle de nos armes d'Audeley et de Tochet ; avoir et porter avec certains differences, come piert per un escocheon dessoubs paintz, les colours sable et ermeyn partez et endentez avec un cheveron de goules frettez d'or et les armes d'Audeley ; et un creste, cestassavoir, une eele, q'este parcelle de nostre creste d'Audeley, de quele ele les plumes serront des colours de sable et d'ermeyn. A avoir et porter les dites armes, avec autiex differences come leur semble mieux affaire hors de mesme les armes, a eulx et a leur heires, de nous et de nos heirs pur tous jours, sanz empeschement de nous ou de noz heirs q'conque pur le temps avenir. En tesmoignance de quele chose, aicestes noz presentes lettres nous avons fait mettre nostre seal. Donne soubz nostre manoir de Marketon, le primer jour d'August, l'an du grace mile quatre centz quart.<sup>1</sup>

Here we have not a transfer of existing arms, but a grant of a newly devised coat, exactly on all fours with a grant by a herald. Lord Audley, wishing to honour his two esquires, John and Thomas Macworth, devises for them a coat compounded of his own quartered arms of Touchet and Audley. It is a pretty variation of principle : if a man can assign the whole, he can assign the part. We have seen that the Earl of Lincoln passed his purple lion to a Scrope. Lord Audley's grant was much more artistic. He includes also a crest, 'parcel of our crest of Audley,' and grants the arms and crest 'to hold of us and our heirs for ever.' But perhaps the most remarkable point in this very interesting document is that relating to the differencing of the coat as between the two brothers : the arms are granted to them both, to be borne *with such differences as they may choose to arrange*.

1422. Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego, Thomas de Clanvowe, chivaler, dedi, concessi, et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Willelmo Crikot, consanguineo meo, arma mea et jus eadem gerendi quæ mihi jure hæreditario descendere ; Habenda et tenenda prædicta arma mea et jus eadem gerendi præfato Willelmo, hæredibus et assignatis suis, absque reclamacione mei vel hæredum

<sup>1</sup> Harleian MS. 1410, fo. 43.



meorum imperpetuum. Et ego, prædictus Thomas et hæredes mei prædicta arma et jus eadem gerendi præfato Willelmo, hæredibus et assignatis suis, contra omnes gentes warantizabimus imperpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium presenti cartæ mei sigillum meum opposui. Datum apud Hergast, in festo Corporis Christi, anno regni Regis Henrici quinti post conquestum undecimo.<sup>1</sup>

There is some mistake in the date of this copy, for Henry V. died in his tenth regnal year. Corpus Christi day, 10 Henry V., would fall in 1422. If the error is in the royal number, we have the choice of 1410, 11 Henry IV., or 1433, 11 Henry VI. The grant follows the usual conveyancing form, with two variations: it includes not merely the arms, but the right of bearing them, a fine legal distinction; and it is expressed to be 'without reclaim by me or my heirs.' Assigns are mentioned, and there is a general warranty against all men.

1436. Noverint universi per presentes me, Joannam nuper uxorem Willelmi Lee de Knightley, dominam et rectam heredem de Knightley, dedisse, concessisse, et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse Ricardo Peshale, filio Humfridi Peshale, scutum armorum meorum; Habendum et tenendum ac portandum et utendum ubicunque voluerit sibi et heredibus suis imperpetuum; Ita quod nec ego nec aliquis alius nomine meo aliquod jus vel clameum seu calumpniam in predicto scuto habere potuerimus, sed per presentes sumus exclusi imperpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum meum apposui. Datum apud Knightley, die Mercurii proxima post festum Paschæ, anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum quarto-decimo.<sup>1</sup>

This grant by the Lady of Knightley is probably the best-known of all such cases.<sup>2</sup> It differs from those already printed chiefly in what may be called the renunciation clause, which is very full: 'so that neither I, nor any other in my name, may have any right, claim or challenge to the said shield, but that we, by these presents, may be for ever excluded.' This is the common-form clause in a release of rights to real property.

1442. Humfrey, Counte de Stafford et de Perch, Seignour de Tunbrigg et de Caux, a toutz ceux qui cestes presentes littres verrount ou orrount, Salutz. Saches que nous, considerans les merites que deyuent estre attribues a toutes persones issues de bone lien et exersauntez bones moures et vertues eaux conduysantz termes d'onneur et gentillesse ycelle a consideration nous a move d'augmenter en honneur et noblesse noble home Robert Whitgreve, et luy avoy donne et donnontz par icestes presentes pour memorie d'onnour perpetuel, a portre ses armes en signe de noblesse un escu d'asure a quatre pointz d'or, quatre cheverons de gueles, et luy de porter as autres persons nobles de son linage en descent avecques les differences de descent au dit blazon, et pour de

<sup>1</sup> Harleian MS. 1178, fo. 45.

<sup>2</sup> See *Ancestor*, ii. 4.



tout armoyer et revesture son dit blazon et en honeur le repaver a nouz avecque celuy ordonne, et attribus heaulme et timbre, cestassavoir, le heaulme en mantelle de bloy furrey d'ermine, au une coronne de gules assis sur le dit heaulme, en dedins la coronne une demy antelope d'or. Et pour ceste nostre lettre patent de dit donne verifie en testemoigne la nous fait sceler du scele de nous proppres armes, le xiiij jour d'Agust, l'an du raigne le Roy H. sisme puis le conquest vicessime.<sup>1</sup>

The earl's recital is strongly suggestive of the long preamble beloved of the Elizabethan and later heralds. The description of the shield is curious; the tricking shows a cross with a chevron in each quarter. The grant even prescribes the mantling, which, as in so many early cases, does not follow the rule laid down by later heralds.

1568. George Bullock, 'late Mr. Gonner over the companye of the Ordinarye Gonners' of Berwick-on-Tweed, made his will on 13 June, 1568. By it he granted and freely gave to his son-in-law, Rowland Johnson, gentleman, 'the Mr. Mayson and Surveyor of the Quene's Majeste's workes there: an armes, whiche ys two speres, the one broken and the other hole, with certayne moore-cockes standinge in a shielde, which sheilde ys th'one halfe blacke and the other half blew; the helmet blew, mantyled white and black, with twoe yellow tassells lyke gold at the endes; whiche armes was wonne by the sayde George Bullocke xxviii<sup>d</sup> yerse sence, of a Scottishe gentilman, one of the house of Cockburne. And nowe the sayde George Bullocke by that his sayde last will and testamente dothe frelye gyve and surrender over the same armes unto his sayde sonne in lawe . . . for to gyve or use yt in everye condicion as lardgelye and as amplye as the sayde George Bullock might or owghte to have gyven yt in his lyfe time.'<sup>2</sup>

Tong, in his visitation of Lancashire, 1532-9, records a somewhat similar case:—

Mark that the sayd Master Asheton at the Scottyshe felde tooke a prysoner, whose name was Sir John Forman, Serjeant Porter to the Scottyshe King; and also he tooke Alexander Bunne, Sheriff of Aberdyne; which two prisoners he delivered to my Lord of Norfolke that now ys, to know how he shall bear ther armes.<sup>3</sup>

In this case and the last we have examples of arms of conquest, where 'a poore archer have take a prince or sum noble lorde, and so th'armys of that prysoner . . . he may put to hym and his hayris.' The prisoners of Master Assheton were

<sup>1</sup> Harleian MSS. 1439, fo. 18d; 4630, fo. 16.

<sup>2</sup> Mus. Brit., Add. Ch. 19,882. See also *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, 1891, p. 326, where the document is printed in full by Dr. W. de Gray Birch.

<sup>3</sup> Dallaway's *Inquiries*, 316.

not of noble rank, nor was their captor a poor archer, but the head of an ancient Lancashire house. The Scotch war apparently refers to the Flodden campaign.

1654-5. Edwardus, Marchio et Comes Wigornia, Baro Herbert de Chepstow, Raglan et Gower, omnibus ad quos presentes literæ nostræ pervenerint, salutem. Sciatis quod quum Thomas Bayly, armiger, ob id quod de nostra familia semper est optime meritus, non minori virtute quam sincera fide, et omni genere obsequiorum, et potissimum ob res ab eo tam præclare et strenue gestas in obsidione Arcis Raglan, domus patris mei (tunc Imperatoris exercitum Meridionalis Walliæ) ab eodem per literas patentes autoritate plena equitum colonellus sancitus est, atque ego modo multis in rebus dictum Thomam sibi semper similem expertus, licet aliud mihi nihil integrum habeam quo constantiam tantam compensem et justæ ipsius expectationi faciam satis, ne ingratus videar; Omnibus ad quos ullo pacto spectabit et præcipue Reipublice hujus Angliæ Fæcialibus et Heraldis, declaro et per hunc meum proprium et spontaneum actum, permitto, concedo et dono dicto Thomæ Bayly et suis deinceps hæredibus, ut perpetuo scribant et divisim gerant in suis armorum scutis cristam meam (et majorum meorum) propriam nimirum rostrum militare sive cataractam auream, coronatam [corona] Marcionis, in campo rubeo, sicut in margine depingitur, ac ut hoc honoris insigne in eum ejusque posteros semper continuentur volo. In cujus rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Datas apud Westmonasterium, 26<sup>to</sup> die Februarii, 1654.<sup>1</sup>

1656. Edwardus, Marchio et Comes Wigornia et Glamorgan, Vicecomes Grosmont et Caldicott, Baro Herbert de Chepstow, Ragland et Gower, et prænobilis Ordinis Garterii miles, omnibus ad quos præsentis litteræ nostræ pervenerint. Sciatis quod cum Ludovicus Morgan de Societate Grayensi, armiger, ob id quod non minore virtute quam sincera fide, et omni genere obsequiorum optime meritus, atque ego modo multis in rebus dictum Ludovicum sibi semper similem expertus; licet aliud mihi nihil integrum habeam quo constantiam tantam compensam et justæ ipsius expectationi faciam satis, ne ingratus videar; omnibus ad quos ullo pacto spectabit, et maxime præcipue Reipublicæ hujus Angliæ Fæcialibus et Heraldis declaro, et per hunc meum proprium et spontaneum actum permitto, concedo et dono dicto Ludovico, et suis deinceps hæredibus, ut perpetuo scribant et divisim gerant in suis armorum scutis cristam meam et majorum meorum propriam, nimirum rostrum militare sive cataractam auream, coronatam corona Marchionis, in campo rubeo, sicut in margine depingitur; Ac ut hoc honoris insigne in eum ejusque posteros semper continetur, volo. In cujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentes, Datas apud Westmonasterium, tertio die Julii, 1656.<sup>2</sup>

The most remarkable point about these two documents is the date. It might have been objected that the practice of private grants had become obsolete with the foundation of the college, but here are two cases 170 years after Richard III.'s ineffective foundation in 1484, and a century after the real incorporation in 1555.

Harleian MS. 1470, fo. 246.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. fo. 48.



But, it may be urged, both these self-styled grants are during the Commonwealth, when there was no king, no earl marshal, when Garter himself was one usurper appointed by another. The answer to this is supplied by Mr. Phillimore. 'It is not a little remarkable (he writes) that even the turbulent period of the great rebellion saw no disturbance of the officers of arms, who pursued the duties of their office with perfect equanimity under Cromwell and Charles alike.'<sup>1</sup>

The equanimity of Sir Edward Walker, Dugdale, and the other dispossessed heralds is perhaps open to question, but the passage quoted states the undoubted fact that the college seems to have gone on during the Commonwealth period with practically no change except in the person of some of its officers.

Note that the marquis boldly addressed 'all whom it may in any way concern, and most especially the Poursuivants and Heralds of this Republic of England.' This is either a tacit statement that the heralds were bound to admit as of course the right of the marquis to make the grant, and its validity when made, or it is the merest bravado. And this leads us to what is the real significance of these two grants. The government may have been a republic, and Garter may have been 'bogus,' but the Marquis of Worcester was an 'armigerous gent' of some considerable social position. Edward Somerset, second Marquis and sixth Earl of Worcester, was born in 1601, and succeeded his father in 1646. A zealous royalist, he was imprisoned in the Tower from July 1652 to October 1654, and his property was sequestered. This explains his pathetic statement that he has no means of making a recompence to his two faithful followers in any way worthy of their merits, but not wishing to seem ungrateful, he grants them an ensign of honour to be handed down to their descendants. His son Henry was created Duke of Beaufort in 1682.

His grandfather, Edward, Earl of Worcester, had been one of the commissioners for executing the office of earl marshal in 1604 and 1617. Such a man, we may conceive, was hardly likely to go through the farce of making these two grants if he knew that they were illegal and ineffectual. We may therefore take it that he, rightly or wrongly, thought he had full power to grant a part of his arms to his two friends.

<sup>1</sup> *Heralds' College and Coats-of-Arms*, p. 4.



We thus see that well down to Dugdale's time<sup>1</sup> the old practice of 'every man his own herald' was not entirely obsolete ; and that the right of assumption and prescription, recognized by the heralds, still retained its ancient corollary of the right of grant or conveyance.

<sup>1</sup> Dugdale's first heraldic appointment was as Blanch Lyon Poursuivant Extraordinary in 1638.

W. PALEY BAILDON.

## THE CURWENS OF WORKINGTON<sup>1</sup>

THE name and arms of Curwen, with the lands of Workington, were carried by marriage in 1782 to Christian of Ewanrigg, a descendant of the Christians of the Isle of Man. From this match come the present Curwens of Workington, the representatives of one of the most ancient knightly families in Cumberland, for a memorial of whom Mr. John F. Curwen of Kendal, corresponding secretary of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian Society and a Curwen of the male line, is editing the annotated pedigree of which two parts out of four lie before us.

The stout paper and clear type of this pedigree give it a pleasant air of permanence which even the ornamental initials, beloved of the local printer, do not weaken. The narrative is clearly arranged, and the chart pedigrees, although on folding sheets, do not tear at the first or second handling.

That the history of so ancient a family should begin with a charter rather than a legend is a good omen, and with Ketel son of Eltred we begin, which Ketel gives to the monks of St. Mary of York the church of Morlund and the church of Wirchington, with land in Wirchington. He names his father Eltred, his wife Christian, and William his son, so that we have good material for choosing out our Ketel from amongst the many other Ketels of the north. To the foundation charter of Wetherhal Priory he was a witness, at a date reckoned as being between the years 1092 and 1112. His lands were in Westmorland and Cumberland, and an inspeximus of Edward I. recites his gift of land in Kirkby Kendal to the hospital of St. Peter of York.

The Curwens gave freely to holy church, and this open-handedness affords such help to the searcher after their history that the pedigree of the family may be pieced together with singular ease. Orm, the son of Ketel, married Gunhild, sister of Waltheof of Allerdale, who as Waltheof, son of Earl Gospatrick (of Dunbar), is said to have given Seaton, Camerton, Flimby and Greysouthen with Gunhild his sister to Orm, son of Ketel.

<sup>1</sup> *The Curwen Pedigree*, by John F. Curwen of Kendal. Parts I. and II.

Gospatrick, son of Orm, commemorated this marriage in his name, and was a benefactor of Holme Cultram. He was the first of the Curwen lords of Workington, which he had with Lamplugh of William of Lancaster in exchange for Middleton in Westmorland, as appears by a deed which is still at Workington Hall. When William the Lion rode through Cumberland in 1174 Gospatrick, son of Orm, an aged Englishman, yielded Appleby Castle, of which he was constable, to the Scottish king. He is said to have died in 1179, a date for which no evidence is quoted.

The pious gifts of Thomas, son of Gospatrick, are recorded in more than one page of the *Monasticon*, the Premonstratensian canons being chosen out for especial generosity. Lamplugh he granted away to Robert of Lamplugh, who was to render the pair of gilt spurs yearly which Thomas owed to William of Lancaster. And here we are stayed by Mr. Curwen's amazing comment that 'every knight who served on horseback was obliged to wear his equites aurati.' As 'equites aurati' can only be translated as 'knights,' we feel that the Protestant reporter who described the chancel of a ritualist church as hung with 'burning thurifers' has at last been matched.

This Thomas is said, no authority being cited, to have had the lordship of Culwen in Galloway from his kinsman Rowland, son of Ughtred of Galloway, and to have given it to his son Patrick. This Patrick, a younger son, was heir to his brother Thomas or to Thomas's daughter, and was the next head of the house. Mr. Curwen styles Patrick the first bearer of the surname of Curwen in its old form of Culwen, but he cites no evidence in which he is called by any other name than Patrick, son of Thomas. His seal is the first evidence of the arms of the family, which are of silver fretted gules with a chief azure. This seal is found to a deed, presumably at Workington. The inscription is **SIGILL' PATRICII · FILII · THOME.**

At every step the pedigree of the main line is strengthened by the confirmation by the Curwens of their forefathers' gifts to the church. Gilbert, the grandson of Patrick son of Thomas, according to the register of Holme Cultram as quoted by Dugdale, gives a pedigree of no less than six generations, speaking of himself as Gilbert of Workington, son of Gilbert, son of Patrick who was son of Thomas, son of Gospatrick, son of Orme. The descent certainly agrees in this case with known facts, although we are suspicious by habit of charters which



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name more than two ancestors. This Gilbert of Workington is also Gilbert of Culwen, and from his time the surname of Culwen or Curwen becomes the settled use of the family.

Workington had its licence to battle its walls in 1379 under Gilbert, fourth of his name, a sheriff of Cumberland. The family rose to some eminence in the world under Sir Christopher, lord of Workington from 1404 to 1450, who fought in the wars of Henry V. and Henry VI., and earned a castle and land in the province of Caux. Needless to say this possession was soon swept away by the rising tide of French lordship in France. Sir Christopher lies under the best of the Curwen monuments, a tomb at Workington with effigies of himself and his lady. Upon this tomb we see the Curwen crest of a unicorn's head, not 'a unicorn's head erased,' as Canon Bower would describe it. His seal has crest and supporters, the crest in this case being a demi-unicorn, and the supporters a maiden in a long gown and a unicorn. The silver original is said to be preserved at Workington, but if the illustration of it may be trusted, the piece can hardly be genuine, for the picture shows a seal impossibly unlike anything of the period.

The Sir Thomas Curwen of Henry VIII.'s day, 'an excellent archer at twelvescore,' had an old friendship with his king and begged of him a lease of Furness Abbey. Those who would have statistics of the curse which abbey lands bring with them will be disappointed to hear that five generations follow Sir Thomas in the direct line, and that Workington and the Curwens came by no ill that can be reasonably traced to the Furness lease.

A Sunday evening in May of 1568 saw a fishing boat driven by weather into Workington Bay with Mary the Queen of Scots on the deck. The queen and the Lord Herries were made guests at Workington Hall, and left the agate cup behind them which is one of the heirlooms of Workington. Sir Henry Curwen, the queen's kind though probably unwilling host, rode into Scotland with Sussex and Scrope in 1570 and brought thence the iron gates of Carlaverock Castle, a more substantial heirloom, to be hung in the Workington gatehouse.

The civil war found Sir Patricius Curwen of Workington a baronet and a royalist colonel, who followed the king to Oxford. He survived, and there follows amongst the family memorials the familiar whining petition to the commissioners for composition of estates. His warlike doings were unim-

portant, and a fine of £2,000 saved Workington Hall. The baronetcy died with him, but he lived to see the Restoration and to make a will in 1664 in which he utterly abhorred and renounced 'all Idolatry and Superstition, all Heresy and Schism.'

'Galloping Harry Curwen' of Workington went into exile with King James II., and he was so long in France that a kinsman in 1696 had a verdict that the squire was dead, and that Darcy Curwen of Sella was heir of Workington, a verdict which brought Harry back home in hot haste. The sturdy faith of Sir Patricius disappeared with him, and Harry Curwen is found in 1715 a papist and non-juror. His death provided Workington Hall with the family ghost which such a seat demands. A French lady and her maid, whose presence at the hall cannot be explained without scandal, took the old man when nigh to death and dragged him downstairs, whilst they plundered his cupboards and strong boxes. Since that day Harry's head still disturbs the watches of the night by bumping from stair to stair.

The history of the Curwens will be completed in two more parts, for which we shall look with interest. Mr. Curwen's arrangement of his work is clear and the narrative may be easily followed, but many criticisms may be offered of his methods.

Throughout the story the suspicion arises that we have here a pedigree in which new wine is poured into old bottles. Marriages and the like are recorded again and again without evidence of any sort, and it is disturbing to think that the trimming of this carefully-considered work may be from some seventeenth century pedigree with its guesswork and misapprehensions. The record work is not thorough enough. In a book of this importance we look at least for such important evidences as wills and inquests post-mortem to be quoted accurately and fully, but we find important inquests quoted from the old printed calendars without description of their contents, and the wills of the family do not seem to have been examined in detail. Many Latin evidences are cited without references, and the Latin abbreviations are set down without amplification or the use of record founts. In many cases the Latin is copied with doubtful accuracy—'probio' for 'presbytero' might be amended, and diphthongs of 'æ' are printed as 'œ.' 'S. Christofer of Curwen chi lod of Canyell' cannot be a fair reading of an English deed of 1435, and 'the Rev.

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Thomas Curwen, a Roman Catholick priest ' of the fifteenth century is a gross anachronism in form. The Christian names of the earlier folk follow the slipshod form which translates the men and leaves the women for the most part in the charter Latin. If Alicia be translated as Alice, why should Avicia not appear as Avice. Grace and Edith appear in the pedigree in English, whilst Isabella and Margareta are untranslated. Mr. Curwen will find that the ' castle of Rothomagium,' from which King Henry V. gives a grant to a Curwen, is also capable of translation. Surely he would not speak of one of his borderers as being hung at Carliolensis gaol ?

We understand that all the copies of this edition are already disposed of, so that Mr. Curwen will doubtless be persuaded to undertake a second one in which many of these points will be considered.

O. B.



## THE FORTUNES OF A MIDLAND HOUSE

MR. BARRON'S criticism on the way in which the earlier generations of the Middlemores are treated in my history of that family raises an important question as to the manner in which we are to regard the pedigrees handed down to us by the Elizabethan genealogists, official and otherwise. It would seem that in Mr. Barron's view such pedigrees ought to be discarded unless good record evidence is forthcoming to support them. This surely is too sweeping—too iconoclastic. Doubtless many Elizabethan pedigrees will not bear close investigation, and doubtless too the age was not sufficiently critical as we now understand criticism in matters of genealogy. But it is not reasonable to treat all Elizabethan pedigrees as presumptively erroneous, and the better course is to consider each pedigree upon its merits and to accept it as presumably true if prepared by a known genealogist, even if merely official, provided it does not extend over too long a period, and abstains from performing genealogical gymnastics with the object of attaching a family of middle rank to some race of greater note in another and distant county. Thus the many pedigrees of middle class Gloucestershire families given by John Smith of Nibley, which often go back for many generations, though it might be hard to prove them now by record evidence, are presumably correct, and it is quite reasonable to accept them as in the main accurate. But a case like the Gloucestershire Selwyns, for whom an attempt was made to tack them on to the distant and more notable family of that name in Sussex, at once excites suspicion and challenges inquiry. So too do the pedigrees of common names, like Smith, whether prepared by Elizabethan or Victorian genealogists, bid us to be critical when we find them claiming descent from some more notable line.

In the case of the Middlemores a consideration of all the circumstances indicates that the Elizabethan and Jacobean pedigrees of the family are in the main correct, and in the absence of any evidence militating against them it is a reasonable course to accept them so long as it is made perfectly clear

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to the reader on what authority they rest. That is the course I followed in the Middlemore book. There is absolutely no evidence against the pedigrees, and they receive confirmation from the fact that we find persons in Warwickshire records corresponding as to date with most of the persons named in the pedigrees.

The pedigree in the Vincent MSS., which is the authority for the connection between the Edgbaston Middlemores and those of Hawkeslow, has for its author Augustine Vincent, the herald, who was contemporary with Richard Middlemore of Edgbaston, Simon Middlemore of the Haselwell line, and John Middlemore of Hawkeslow. These three men, all in the same rank of life, if Vincent's account be correct, would be fourth cousins. It is perfectly reasonable for so short a pedigree to accept the statement of a professional genealogist as correct, even if at the present day unsupported by record evidence; it would be unreasonable to do otherwise. In this case we have better cause to accept Vincent's statement, as he was himself connected with Sheepey, in which village Simon's son, George Middlemore, had settled.

But in the present case strong confirmatory record evidence has come to light since the book was issued, which answers plainly two of Mr. Barron's pertinent questions. (1) What authority is there for the existence of Nicholas Middlemore? and (2) How do we know that Isabel, the wife of the London merchant, Thomas Middlemore, was an Edgbaston? To the first question an entry in the gild book of the Holy Trinity at Stratford-on-Avon, lately sent me by Mr. Harvey Bloom, rector of Whitchurch, is a sufficient reply.

Nicholas Myddelmore, esquire, and Margery his wife, were admitted 15 Henry VI. [1436-7], a date which agrees with the period of that Nicholas who figures as the stock-father of the Hawkesley Middlemores.

Then as to Isabel Edgbaston. If Mr. Barron had kept himself abreast of genealogical literature—a hard task truly, but we expect much from him—he would have seen that General Wrottesley has printed in the *Genealogist*, xviii. 238, a De Banco suit of 35 Henry VI. which gives the following pedigree.



## THE ANCESTOR

John son of Henry de=Isabella  
 Eggebaston, seized  
 temp. E. III.

Richard

Isabella

John

Richard Middlemore

These and various other points are dealt with in a small supplement which I have just printed, and from that it will be seen that we are now able to carry the Middlemores back into the reign of Edward the Second. One small criticism of Mr. Barron's it is impossible not to sympathize with—the absence of any rule in my book as to the use of the double date. But, alas, register certificates coming without the context do not allow us always to precisely indicate the date, and even the registers themselves sometimes leave us in doubt. But generally it may be taken that any date between 1 January and 25 March may with great probability be ascribed to the subsequent year in order to reduce it to more modern chronology. The date May, on page 36 of the Middlemore history, to which Mr. Barron refers, is obviously an error for March—an error of the same class as the reviewer's mistake of writing *Lye* for *Sye*, or *filager* for *filacer*. And whilst dealing with such points it may be well to add that Col. R. F. Middlemore never was 'of Grantham,' and that it was the son, and not the grandson, of Richard Middlemore who in 1869 bought from his cousins the ancient estate of Hawkesley.

## W. P. W. PHILLIMORE.

Mr. Phillimore has our congratulations upon the discovery by General Wrottesley of the proof for the Middlemore marriage with Edgbaston, and upon Mr. Bloom's discovery of a Nicholas and Agnes Middlemore. But both discoveries, as Mr. Phillimore will be the first to admit, leave our original criticism of his work untouched. One assertion of the Elizabethan pedigree which lacked proof has now been proved, and a second has its probability strengthened, but many other weak links remain to be strengthened before we can regard Mr. Thomas Middlemore's eighteen generations of pedigree as a record secure at all points.



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Our difference with Mr. Phillimore lies after all in our attitude towards these long pedigrees which the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries set down in the visitation books and other genealogical records. Mr. Phillimore's contention is that they should as a rule be 'accepted as presumably true' if prepared by a known genealogist—a phrase which should surely include every officer of arms. They must not be too long, a phrase which should, we submit, discredit the earlier and still unproved generations of the Middlemores. Mr. Phillimore's last stipulation that the pedigree to be accepted should abstain from connecting families of middle rank with great families of the same surname and of distant dwelling place is an unfortunate one, for he thereby admits that his pedigree makers would forge with a good will when such imaginative work was demanded of them. In the case of the Middlemores we have suggested no inherent improbability in any part of the genealogies before us, but the untrustworthiness in detail of all such early genealogies is well seen in the instance of the Middlemores of Haslewell. Here we have two early versions of the pedigree. Vincent's pedigree on the one hand gives us a John Middlemore in the direct line who married Alice Rotsey, and had issue George. The pedigree officially registered by the heralds in 1634 omits both John and Alice, which story shall be 'accepted as presumably true'? In this case Mr. Phillimore will admit the difficulty of following his rule, although he suggests reasons for believing Vincent's version rather than the official.

A further difficulty will be found in Mr. Phillimore's phrase of the 'known genealogist' whose work is to be trusted. We suggest to Mr. Phillimore, an expert in genealogy, that there are few early genealogists to whom the adjective 'notorious' rather than 'known' would not be more justly applied. Vincent himself, indifferent honest, and laborious beyond measure, was both credulous and careless. He accepted the monstrous pedigree of the Spencers, neighbours of his own family, without difficulty, and his pedigrees for the mediæval period often suggest the well-known method of arranging people of one surname in the order in which their names are found in deeds and records and connecting them with lines of descent.

Mr. Phillimore would make our condemnation of the Elizabethan genealogists more sweeping than our words justify. We do not hold that their work should be cast aside or disregarded unless 'good record evidence be forthcoming to support them.' But whilst receiving them with all the interest and respect which they may claim, we deny that they can in any circumstances be received as undoubted 'proofs' of a descent. We will willingly go further than this, and say that not the Elizabeth pedigree alone, but no pedigree, old or new, can be treated as presumably accurate unless the collateral evidence of records be in its favour. In this matter we need maintain no appearance of disputing with Mr. Phillimore, whose real agreement with us we do not doubt.

For the Middlemore pedigree we repeat that our criticism holds good. The early generations of the Middlemores remain unproven, and the precise line of descent of Mr. Thomas Middlemore of Melsetter from the parent stock of Middlemore of Edgbaston is not yet ascertained.—[ED.]

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## ENGLISH COUNTS OF THE EMPIRE

**I**N my article on this subject I urged <sup>1</sup> the importance of ascertaining "the actual words of the limitation" in the famous grant to Sir Thomas Arundel of a Countship of the Empire (14 Dec. 1595). A correspondent has pointed out to me that the patent of creation is printed in Selden's *Titles of Honour* (1672), and although that work is not indexed and does not mention this patent in its table of contents, I found it there at last on p. 347. The essential words, it will be seen, make the honour descendible to all and each of the grantee's children, heir, posterity and descendants, of either sex, born or to be born, for ever.

te supradictum Thomam Arundelium qui jam ante comitum consanguinitatem a majoribus acceptam in Anglia obtines, omnesque et singulos liberos, hæredes, posteros, et descendentes tuos legitimos utriusque sexus natos æternæ serie nascituros etiam veros sacros (*sic*) Romani Imperii Comites et Comitissas creavimus, fecimus, et nominavimus, tituloque, honore et dignitate comitatus Imperialis auximus atque insignivimus sicut vigore præsentium creamus, facimus, etc. . . . unacum universa prole atque posteritate legitima mascula et fœminea in infinitum titulum, nomen, etc.

Wide and sweeping as is this limitation, it is obviously irreconcilable with the view that Lord Clifford is a Count of the Empire in virtue of his representing one of the daughters and coheirs of one of the Lords Arundel. This, as I have said, confuses the foreign with the English system of nobility. The above limitation must be construed either as ennobling all the members of the Arundel family descended from the grantee (which I contend is the right interpretation) or as ennobling the host of families who can trace descent from him through any number of females. In neither case can it be limited to Lord Clifford as the coheir of one Lord Arundel. And this conclusion must apply *mutatis mutandis* to the St. Paul case also.

J. HORACE ROUND.

<sup>1</sup> *Ancestor*, vii. 15.



## THE CRESSY FAMILY

SIR,

In No. 2, p. 213 of the *Ancestor* there is an error which I venture to correct. It is in the abstract of a Chancery suit in which the Tyrwhit and Cressy families are concerned. Faith, the wife of George Tyrwhit, is said to have been 'daughter of *Everingham* Cressy, a Lincolnshire Justice,' etc. As a matter of fact her father was *Nicholas* Cressy of Fulsby in the parish of Kirkby-on-Bain. In his will dated 22 Feb. 1633, and proved 9 Aug. 1630, he mentions his eldest daughter, Faith Tyrwhit, and his grandchild, Francis Pagett. She had married William Pagett at Kirkby-on-Bain 11 Apl. 1615, and she married her second husband, George Tyrwhit, 24 Aug. 1626, at West Keal. He had been baptized at East Keal 15 July 1604. She outlived him, and died at Scrivelsby (where she made her will 18 Feb. 1679; proved 13 July 1672), the home of her sister Jane, Lady Dymoke.

A. K. MADDISON.

VICARS' COURT, LINCOLN.

7 March 1904.

## GILBERT PECHE OF CORBY

SIR,

I shall be extremely obliged if one of your correspondents will help me to the elucidation of the following doubtful points. Gilbert Peché, Lord of Corby (Northants), whose name and seal appear attached to the Barons' Letter, is said to have died 1322, and to have had two brothers who were disinherited. The accounts of his parentage and of his wife's name differ, and I am anxious to know what became of his descendants and of those of his two brothers.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE C. PEACHEY.

BRIGHTWALTON, WANTAGE.



## EDITORIAL NOTES

MORE than one copy has reached us of a circular concerning a History of Derbyshire projected by a Mr. Pym Yeatman, whose book upon *The Brownes of Bechworth Castle* is also in our hands. Mr. Yeatman has many enemies. His publishers and his printers would seem to have taken counsel together to do him evil. He is wronged by the heralds of arms, by the *Saturday Review*, by his fellow-barristers, by the Midland Circuit mess, by the benchers, and by the judges, 'who have been bribed to aid the carpet-baggers,' and who refuse him the 'Patent of Precedence,' without which Mr. Yeatman will not practise any more in courts of appeal. This patent is urgently needed for Mr. Yeatman's protection 'from the insults, injustice, and—it is really terrible to write it—the slanders from which he has repeatedly suffered so severely from both Bench and Bar.' More especially is Mr. Pym Yeatman wronged by the existence of Mr. Horace Round, 'one of the worst critics of the days,' and by all Yeatmanly standards a 'crassly ignorant' person. We do right then if we endeavour to purge Mr. Round's guilty name from one offence specified in Mr. Yeatman's circulars. He does not 'edit the *Ancestor* under the name of his wood-engraver.'

\* \* \*

It is painful to us to have to explain to Mr. Pym Yeatman that the belief that Mr. Round was editor of the *Ancestor*, would, until the Histories of Derbyshire are more widely known and appreciated, have a certain effect in raising the *Ancestor's* sales. For this reason we must confess, however unwillingly, that Mr. Round does not edit the *Ancestor*, which is and has been edited by the person whose name is upon the title-page. Furthermore, although Mr. Round in his arrogance may go about, for aught we know, attended by his own wood-engraver as a Highland chieftain by his bard, we are not that wood-engraver. The epithet of wood-engraver is a flattering one, a tempting one to accept. Mrs. Wilfer, of *Our Mutual Friend*, recalling past glories of her father's table, remembered it as

surrounded at one time by 'no less than four wood-engravers, exchanging the liveliest sallies.' And the beautiful art is disappearing, but for us it must disappear, our ignorance of it being enough to make Mr. Joseph Pennell very angry indeed.

\* \* \*

Mr. Yeatman's is not the only circular which has made itself into a paper dart against the *Ancestor*, but it is the first to which we have replied. Our correction of poor Mr. Yeatman must not be taken as a precedent. If we reply to-day to circulars and leaflets, we shall reply to-morrow to challenges from sandwichmen's boards, and the day after to-morrow to menaces chalked upon our front door.

\* \* \*

The useful record work which can be done by a skilled antiquary living a hundred miles from the public record office is well seen in Mr. Walter Rye's new calendar of deeds relating to Norwich and enrolled in the Norwich court rolls. The series covers the period from 1285 to 1306. Although few genealogists of the school which depends upon wills and parish registers will ever carry their pedigrees to an ancestor amongst these old Norwich citizens, the archæological value of the entries is very great. Sixteen rectors and vicars are added to the imperfect lists given by Blomefield in his history of Norfolk. A bell-founder is found in Norwich a whole century before the earliest noted by the late Mr. L'Estrange, and the Norwich industries and crafts are illustrated by the various callings of the parties to the deeds. That dyeing was already a famous mystery in Norwich is shown by the numerous 'tinctores,' and 'weyders' or dealers in woad. There are foreigners from Norway, Tuscany, Bruges and Paris. Eight people of the knightly class are holders of city property, with many others of gentle rank. The study of English surnames is aided by the long line of examples of a period when place-names, craft-names and nicknames were slowly crystallizing into fixed and heritable family names.

\* \* \*

The frequent changes of surname amongst mediæval families make baffling difficulty for the modern genealogist. It is at least possible that those who come after us will, despite all the registers of the Registrar-General, find it hard to bridge

the gap which a change of name makes in pedigrees of our own day. Mr. W. P. W. Phillimore has in type an index to changes of surnames which will be a key to at least 10,000 families. The usefulness of this work will be acknowledged to-day, but its importance will certainly increase with every generation.

\* \* \*

We have had to encounter many difficulties in setting about our proposed pictorial survey and record of the ancient arms in Westminster Abbey. At last we have reason to hope that our next number will contain the first instalment of this work so important to students of English armory. Steps are being taken to obtain casts of the famous shields of arms in the abbey nave, shields which are remarkable for their antiquity and interest. Their position and the presence of gas-brackets and the like have made it hitherto impossible to secure satisfactory photographs of the whole series.



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